

# The Cowl

"It's HERE BECAUSE IT'S TRUE,  
NOT TRUE BECAUSE IT'S HERE."

Celebrating 70 years

EST. 1935

VOL. LXXI No. 1

WWW.THECOWL.COM • PROVIDENCE COLLEGE • PROVIDENCE, R.I.

APRIL 27, 2006

## RateMyProfessor.com—blessing or bluffing?

BY ALISON ESPACH '07  
NEWS STAFF

"Your pillow will need a pillow."

That is just one example of a comment from RateMyProfessor.com, a Web site forum where students

anonymously rate their professors from "good quality," "poor quality," "average quality," to "hot." Additionally, students rate the professor's performance regarding issues such as easiness, helpfulness, and clarity. Students can also make anonymous postings, with comments ranging from the extreme negative ("She already hates you") to the outright affectionate ("I love him").

According to RateMyProfessor.com, the site's popularity has grown 150 to 200 percent in the past six years, with a user base of 8,300,000. There are 376 Providence College professors listed on the Web site, and the site claims it is moderated by a Providence College student.

While the Web site may be "un-refereed," according to Dr. Bruce Graver, professor of English and chair of the department, there is no denying that it has become a heavily-relied upon tool for the Providence College community, particularly at registration time.

"Anyone can say anything. A professor can go on there and write his own reviews," said Graver.

"Every time I register I check RateMyProfessor.com," said Maura Ghio '08.

"I started two years ago. I got burned by professors who I discovered matched their ratings," said Diana Kane-Calvert '06.

But who exactly is posting and who is listening?

"The postings have been pretty accurate," said Will Bussiere '07. "I never thought that it would make that much of a difference, but it does feel safer to see a higher number on the page for a professor."

"It is a Web site designed for students by students to identify professors who are easy and entertaining," said Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom, associate professor of theology.

"I think the majority of students who actually write things on it are students who have negative feelings on a professor, so you have to be careful," said Brendan Brown '07.

"If you can weed out the bitter ratings, the people who are

just out to say something bad then it becomes more valuable," said Bussiere.

"Bitter ratings" range from comments such as, "Not only is the book a better teacher, it also has a better personality," to "Evil computer science teaching robot who crushes humans for pleasure."

But how easy is it to differentiate the downright angry students from the reasonably disappointed? Students say the postings can often be confusing when a professor has two postings that sound reliable but differ extremely in content.

For example, one comment about a professor reads, "He is one of the most passionate professors I've ever had. Although his lectures can be a bit disorganized, his love for the material always inspires people to work and learn. He is incredibly helpful outside of class."

However, a scroll down the page will reveal a complete opposite review: "Very difficult to follow his lectures, not helpful at all outside of class. I felt his method of teaching was poor."

Students claim they do not blindly follow the comments; however, they are influenced by them.

"I have been persuaded by it before," said Ghio. "Especially if there is a bad review such as 'stay away from this teacher,' or 'he is the worst grader, uninteresting, confusing, unhelpful'."

"If half the ratings are bad, I will ask around about the professor. If every rating is poor I won't take the teacher. No deal," said Kane-Calvert.

Not everybody shares similar sentiments.

"I think it's hearsay and I don't really want to base my decisions on comments from people I don't know," said Lindsay Pepin '06.

"I have never gone on it. I don't trust it," said Isaac Wash '07.

"I have never looked myself up. I looked up my wife who teaches at Dartmouth on it once as a joke. She wasn't rated," said Graver.

He said she was not rated because Dartmouth already had an "organized" and "systematic" way for students to check up on their professors.

"The colleges in which students depend heavily on RateMyProfessor.com are colleges that don't have a structure in place for organized and systematic professor evaluations," said Graver.

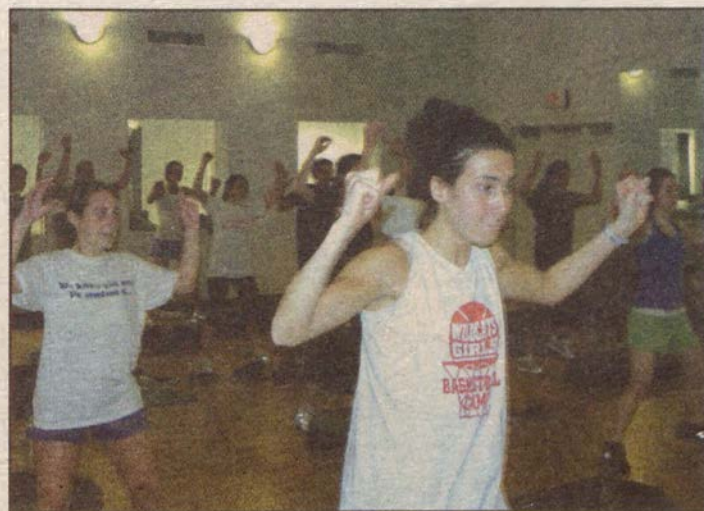
From a faculty perspective, **PROFESSORS/Page 2**

## Peterson packed up

BY BETH FINAN '07  
NEWS STAFF

Providence College recently announced plans to improve the facilities in Peterson Recreation Center and Alumni Hall. Featuring a three-story glass atrium and a two-story fitness center, the new 23,000 square foot design will make Peterson Recreation Center a "state-of-the-art facility," according to a college press release. Although many in the college community were pleased with the announcement, the fact that the construction—slated to begin in June 2006 and end in September 2007—will disrupt normal activities in the building has raised concern among some students.

Mark Rapoza, director of capital projects and facilities planning, said that the most noticeable change would involve the way people get in and out of Peterson Center, Slavin Center, and Alumni Hall. Due to the construction, there will be no access to the front door of Peterson or the Slavin ramp.



JOHN OWENS '07/The Cowl

Students work out during an exercise class in a room designated for aerobics. As the renovations on Peterson Recreation Center begin, the classes might be moved to the field house.

Access to the turf field, however, will remain open. Rapoza said an "egress plan" is being developed to show people how to enter and exit the buildings without interfering with the construction.

The biggest disruption to daily operations will be the relocation of the aerobics classes that are currently held in a studio in Peterson. During construction, that room will house the cardio equipment, such as treadmills, because the varsity laundry room is going to be moved to the space in which the cardio room is located. Rapoza said that the aerobics room was chosen because other options involved moving the equipment out of the Peterson complex, which "was not the most prudent

GYM/Page 6

## Students protest at Statehouse



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

PC social work students from the Class of 2007 protested outside the Rhode Island Statehouse Monday to show support for—or disapproval of—a number of bills and budget cuts dealing with domestic violence and other social issues.

BY BETH LENEHAN '08  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

As cars drove past the steps of the Rhode Island Statehouse on Monday, April 24, they may have noticed a small group of students protesting and reporters recording the event. In a rally entitled "Make Some Noise," members of the Providence Col-

lege social work class of 2007 made their voices heard about recent proposals and bills made by state legislators. Their main focus was potential budget cuts and bills regarding domestic violence. The class invited other members of the College and surrounding community members to work together to make their voices heard.

"I learned about the governor's budget cuts through

a variety of sources—in my classes, through professors and classmates, and did some additional research . . . I also read about them in the paper," said Sarah Armini '07, the main contact for the protest. According to Armini, when the social work class learned about the cuts, they wrote a Providence College Social Work Class of 2007 legislative platform. As a way of fur-

**PROTEST/Page 5**

### COMMENTARY

Library liquidation: Chris Ackley '06 addresses the issue of potential library closings in Providence.

### A&E

Stephanie A. Smith '06 reviews McFadden's in Taste of the Town.

### INDEX

Arts & Entertainment.....15	Arts & Entertainment.....15
Campus Calendar.....2	Portfolio.....22
World.....8	Roving.....27
Week in Review.....9	PC Scoreboard.....28
Commentary.....11	Sports.....BACK PAGE



# Professors: Web site gets poor scores

continued from front page

RateMyProfessor.com does not supply the student with the relevant information that should factor into the decision making process at registration time.

"I am frustrated by what seems to be a lack of intellectual curiosity when a student rates a professor like 'no tests' and 'lets us out on Fridays,'" said Hagstrom.

One might be inclined to agree with her position that the Web site "reduces the student to a consumer and they want a report on what would be the most entertaining class to take," when reading postings such as "BORING! But I

learned there are 137 tiles on the ceiling" or "He is HOT!"

"Bitter ratings' range from comments such as, 'Not only is the book a better teacher, it also has a better personality,' to 'Evil computer science teaching robot who crushes humans for pleasure.'"

However, some students think those

are exactly the details people want to know about their professors.

"I don't think it's at all surprising that the Internet is ahead of the curve in figuring out what students care about the most," said Bussiere.

"We laugh about the chili peppers," said Graver. If a student thinks a professor is "hot," a chili pepper is put next to his name. Graver, who said he does not think he has a chili pepper, added, "Some faculty members take it too seriously, but some take it as a joke."

Hagstrom, who finds the Web site "not valuable from a faculty perspective" agreed that faculty members should not take the harsh criticisms too seriously and

joked, "I think we should have a RateMyStudent.com."

Despite the Web site's apparent fallibility, Graver noted that there is a student demand for reliable professor evaluations and said he thinks the College will address this demand within the next two years.

"There are a few things unusual about this school," said Graver. "One of them being that my job performance was never evaluated again since I received my promotion to a full professor. And that was 12 years ago. They don't even have a copy of my resume on file. I can't imagine any other job in the world like that."

## Campus Calendar for April 28 to May 4

Submit events at [cowlnewsstaff@yahoo.com](mailto:cowlnewsstaff@yahoo.com)

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>5:00-9:00 p.m.</b> Clam Jam on Slavin Lawn.  <b>9:00 p.m.</b> Fortune live in McPhail's.  <b>9:30 p.m.</b> Afro-AM Glow Party in '64 Hall.	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> WDOM concert in '64 Hall.  <b>8:00 p.m.</b> Dance Company concert in Smith Center for the Arts.  <b>9:00 p.m.</b> The Biltmores live in McPhail's.	<b>12 noon</b> John Langley Memorial Basketball Tournament in Peterson.  <b>1:00-11:00 p.m.</b> Festa Da Primavera in Slavin Center 112 and '64 Hall.  <b>2:00 p.m.</b> Dance Company concert in Smith Center for the Arts.  <b>10:00 p.m.</b> Battle of the Bands finals in McPhail's.	<b>4:30-6:30 p.m.</b> Bocce tournament on Slavin Lawn.	<b>8:00 p.m.</b> BINGO Blowout in McPhail's.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Video Fest '06 in Smith Center for the Arts.	<b>5:00 p.m.</b> "Wellness Wednesdays" in Slavin Center room G29.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Video Fest '06 in Smith Center for the Arts.	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> English Senior Thesis Symposium in Quiet Dining Room, Slavin Center.  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> History lecture in Moore Hall I.  <b>9:00 p.m.</b> City Heroic live in McPhail's.

### ★ Attention ★ Psychology ~ Education ~ Social Work Human Service Majors!



**CranstonArc**, a leader in human services for over 40 years, is seeking dedicated students who want to get a head start on gaining practical experiences that will enhance their marketability upon graduation.

Home Based Treatment Services employs talented individuals who work with a team of licensed professionals participating in the delivery of treatment services to children with a variety of developmental and behavioral needs.

★ Make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities

★ Important training opportunities

★ Excellent hourly rate

★ Flexible hours

Minimum qualifications include:

- High School Diploma/GED
- Access to an insured vehicle
- Proof of a clean driving record
- Must pass Background Criminal Investigation

For more information contact Maureen Russo, HR Manager, CranstonArc, 111 Comstock Pkwy, Cranston, RI 02921, Tel: 941-1112, ext 139 or email: [mrusso@cranstonarc.org](mailto:mrusso@cranstonarc.org)

### Summer Assistant Wanted!



- Conduct campus tours
- Discuss your PC experience with 1000+ visitors
- Assist the Administrative staff
- Greet visitors
- File and handle mail
- Answer phones

Applicants must possess a genuine enthusiasm for Providence College, a sincere desire to assist and interact with a wide variety of visitors, strong public speaking skills, and a high level of energy.

Applications are available in the Office of Admission.

### Project MAPLE



(Making Adjustments for Positive Life Enhancement)

#### Females between 18 and 24

you may be eligible to participate in a Research Study  
Project MAPLE is a study about the health behaviors of young adults. The purpose of this project is to learn more about how young adults understand behaviors that could put their health at risk.

Participation is **completely confidential**.

Eligible participants receive:

- Compensation for interviews
- Free STD testing

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

**Project MAPLE**  
**444-0906**



## NEWS BRIEFS

### The Alembic made available soon

The *Alembic* is a literary journal that includes original poetry and fiction from both established and student writers all over the world. According to Jason T. Stumpf, adjunct assistant professor of English, who advises the production of *The Alembic*, the 2006 issue will feature work by writers from the Providence College community, from across the country, and other parts of the world. Included in the 2006 issue of *The Alembic* are international pieces by authors from Columbia, Mexico, and China.

"The common thread between all the work the editors selected is originality," Stumpf said. "These writers create world and distinctive voices."

This year's edition of *The Alembic* will include work by authors with national reputations. Among these well-known writers are Gary Fincke, Graham Foust, John Gallaher, and even Providence College's own Dr. Peter M. Johnson, Professor of English. The editors who selected the pieces and who helped arrange the 2006 issue of *The Alembic* were Alison Espach '07, Ashley Laferriere '06, Caitlin Murphy '06, and Emily Reynolds '06. Also involved in putting the issue together were the students enrolled in the Literary Journalism class at Providence College.

"These students invested thousands of hours and made thousands of tough decisions in compiling this issue," Stumpf said. "The issue is the better for their care as well as their critical judgment."

Stumpf emphasized that the editors of *The Alembic* selected the best work based on the quality of the work itself, not on the literary reputation of the author. Given the wide range of impressive works submitted, the decision-making process was based on the editors' literary critique of each work. The final issue of *The Alembic* was designed by Robert A. Booth, associate director and project manager of publications.

Submissions to be considered for inclusion in *The Alembic* are read during the fall semester. They may be sent directly to *The Alembic* or can be dropped off in the English Department.

Stumpf said that the 2006 issue of *The Alembic* will likely not be available on campus until the last week of school, but when it arrives, it will be available free of charge in the library, in the bookstore, and in other various locations around campus.

More information about this literary work is available on the journal's Web site: [www.providence.edu/english/alembic](http://www.providence.edu/english/alembic).

—Richard Kurker '09

### Students robbed in Davis parking lot

At 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, Andrew Mueller '07 and Brandon Taylor '07 were robbed by a male in a ski mask in the corner of Davis parking lot closest to Dore Hall. The two students were headed toward Taylor's car when "out pops this guy out of the shadows," Mueller said. The man was armed.

"He cocked the gun and pointed it at me," said Mueller.

The robber told Mueller and Taylor to empty their pockets on the hood of the car, and asked them if that was all the money they had before grabbing it, leaving their cell phones on the hood. He then threw Taylor's car keys in one direction and walked away in another. The robber took about \$20 from each of them.

"We were a little shaken afterwards," said Mueller, who nevertheless called Security and was immediately transferred to the police. The two students saw a police car that had been on campus speed away soon after Mueller had placed his call.

Mueller and Taylor went to the Office of Safety and Security to file an on-campus report. Then two more police officers asked them questions. Finally, two plainclothes police officers drove

them to Chad Brown Street, where they had apprehended two men for a different crime. They brought the two men into Mueller and Taylor's range of view in the back of a car with tinted windows so that the students might be able to identify one of them. However, since the man who robbed them was wearing a ski mask, the students could not be sure that either of the suspects was their robber.

"It's a situation that's not really normal," said Mueller.

Despite the incident, Mueller says that he still feels safe on campus—except for that corner of the parking lot.

"I'm not going there at night any more," he said. "It's not really well-lit."

—Jennifer Jarvis '07

### Students show growing interest in philosophy

The most important thing that Dr. Peter Costello, assistant professor of philosophy, noticed at PC's Second Annual New England Undergraduate Philosophy Conference is that students wanted to be there. About 150 students attended the conference on Saturday, April 1, in Moore Hall.

"What I really like about doing this conference is it shows to me that philosophy is an important part of student life here at Providence College," said Costello.

The conference included the presentation of philosophical papers from students at 15 different colleges from New Jersey to New Hampshire. Members of PC's Philosophy Club were in charge of getting paper submissions, calling every college in seven states and posting an ad on the American Philosophical Association's Web site. Out of approximately 50 submissions, they had to pick 15 to be presented at the conference.

At the conference, three papers were presented in three different rooms each hour. The 30-minute paper presentations were followed by shorter response pa-

pers by PC students and subsequently, an audience discussion moderated by a philosophy professor. The papers covered topics such as Eastern philosophy, euthanasia, and the philosophy of art.

According to Costello, many people in the audience were philosophy and Civ students, but students from other disciplines—and other states—attended as well.

"We had students from New Jersey City University who took a bus up just to attend," said Costello. He added that this year's conference was considered bigger and better than last year, incorporating about 15 schools compared to last year's 10 to 12.

"Everyone agreed the quality of the papers this year was better," Costello said. "... The student papers were, in my opinion, graduate level."

The keynote speaker was Noah Lemos, professor of philosophy at the College of William & Mary and chair of the department, who spoke on "intrinsic value" in ethics.

"He was pleasantly shocked to have 150 people listening to him," said Costello.

While Costello said he and other philosophy professors were part of the conference planning and execution, he stressed that it was the student members of the philosophy club who put in the most hours.

"The bottom line is students really developed and ran this thing on their own," Costello said, adding that he sensed the students in the audience were not just there for extra credit but were truly interested.

This is good news for the philosophy department, which Costello said is growing. At present, there are 43 majors and seven minors in the department.

"This shows the philosophy department is alive and well and a real option for students at PC," Costello said.

—Jennifer Jarvis '07

# Stricter guest policy to be implemented

BY CATE RAUSEO '07  
NEWS STAFF

The advent of a new security policy will influence visitors of the College, an act which many administrators and students hope will help to cut back on vandalism, thefts, and other

**STUDENT LIFE** misconduct within residence halls. Beginning in the fall of 2006, this policy will be enacted, requiring students to register their visitors via ANGEL.

According to Dr. Steven A. Sears, dean of residence life, students will be required to fill out a registration form 48 hours prior to their guest's arrival. Students will then receive a response within 24 hours, enabling him or her to download a pass that their guest will be required to keep on them throughout their visit.

In addition, Sears explained that guests can stay for no longer than three nights and four days and most importantly, the behavior of each guest is the responsibility of his or her PC host.

Sears said that resident assistants, security, and front desk monitors will be able to ask for guest passes at any time. Those who fail to abide by this new policy will face punishment if caught.

"A considerable number of unacceptable events take place on this campus due to the actions of guests," said Sears. "These issues involve acts that are not conducive to a cohesive living environment and have an impact on our community... We are, at all times, hospitable in the welcoming of our guests to the campus; however, we also want to promote a community that is respectful to all parties involved."

Many students agree that this policy will help to place blame where it is due. "It seems like when things happen on

campus like fights, stealing, or vandalism, there will be repercussions only if it is done by a student here and guests seem to get away without punishment," said Tom Quinn '07. "At least with the new policy someone will be responsible for things that happen."

"I think that this policy will cut down on the vandalism and thefts we have experienced in the suites," said Elizabeth Morse '07. "There are a lot of other colleges that have a rule like this so I don't think it is unreasonable."

"I think this is a positive policy in that it will make those who have guests recognize their liability, creating greater incentive to abate any inappropriate behavior," said Erin Egan '07.

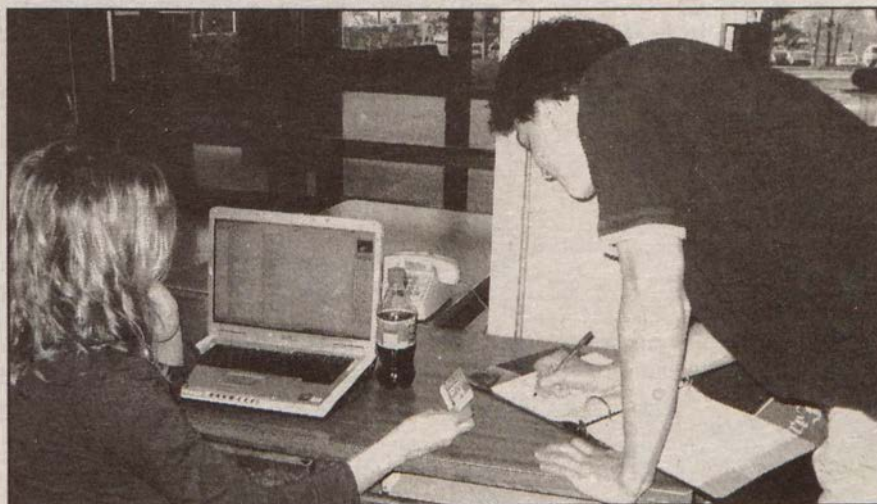
"My iPod was stolen by a guest of a student, and the school could not punish anyone for it. I did get it back, but I think this new policy will make things better because guests of students would be held just as accountable for their actions as PC students themselves," said Sarah Dupont '07.

Despite the seeming advantages of this new policy, many students feel that it will cause students more bother than benefit.

"I have not had any guests who have caused problems, so I think it is kind of an inconvenience for students who don't cause any problems," said Kathleen Scullin '09. "It will make it hard if you have a friend come to visit who you did not know was coming and you don't want them to drive back late at night. I just think there could be better ways of enforcing security—like with security cameras."

"I think this policy will cause problems because some visits are unexpected or surprises," said Stephen McNaughton '07.

"I think that this policy will just be



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Mike Cabral '09 signs in before entering McVinney. Next year, the Office of Residence Life will also be keeping tabs on guests.

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
**Au Bon Pain** is having an  
**Open House!**  
*All Positions - Interview On the Spot!*

**When:** Wednesday, May 3

8:30am-11:30am or 2 pm-5:30 pm

**Where:** Au Bon Pain

100 Westminster Street--Bank of America

*Fun, team spirited environment!*



# 50 years of Dominicans in Pakistan

BY JEN JARVIS '07  
NEWS EDITOR

This year commemorates the 50th anniversary of American Dominicans in Pakistan. What makes this especially pertinent to PC is that many of the Americans who have been there throughout the years have come from the College. In fact, The

## CAMPUS TO WORLD

Most Rev. Ernest B. Boland, O.P. '48, was the third bishop of Multan, and brings to the College community the message of service and mission.

Pakistan had only recently become an independent country when Americans arrived there. Pakistan was part of India—which was under British rule—until 1947. In that year, the Muslim people in Hindu India broke away to form the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which means “land of the holy one,” according to Bishop Boland.

“The idea was to have a homeland for the Muslims,” said Bishop Boland.

About one or two percent of the population of Pakistan is Christian, according to Bishop Boland. Throughout the years, the number of Christians has increased with population growth, but has not become a bigger percentage. Nevertheless, the Dominican presence has been strong since 1931.

According to Bishop Boland, the first Dominicans in Pakistan were Roman, arriving in 1931 to take responsibility for what would become the Diocese of Multan, an almost 56,000 square mile stretch of land. However, warfare interrupted their mission.

“Their work was broken up because of the second World War,” Bishop Boland said.

The first American Dominicans arrived in Pakistan in 1956 to assist the Roman Dominicans in their mission. Rev. William Marrin, O.P., the new provincial of New York, accepted a proposal



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BISHOP BOLAND

**Above:** Bishop Boland, center, in 1966 with a parish in Loreto. **Right:** Bishop Boland is welcomed as he returns to Pakistan in 1998 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Italian Dominican sisters in the country.

from Bishop Francis B. Cialeo, O.P., the Bishop of Multan, to send American Dominicans to Pakistan. Bishop Boland arrived the following year.

“I think we got up to about 35 Dominicans all together,” he said, many of whom had studied at Providence College.

Eventually, two dioceses were established—one in Multan and one in Faisalabad, which became the diocese for the Roman Dominicans. The Americans stayed in Multan.

According to Bishop Boland, two mission stations—in Loreto and Bahawalpur—were staffed by the American Dominicans. The main goals accomplished were to build up the physical aspects of the Church; get to know the people, culture, and language; offer the Eucharist; bring sacramental life; and try to discern the needs of the people.

“We try to learn the culture, we try to learn their needs, we try to learn their language as much as possible so that we could communicate with them,” Bishop Boland said.

In addition to the Dominicans associated with the missions in Loreto and Bahawalpur, a group of Dominican Contemplative nuns from Los Angeles ar-



rived in 1959. They were a cloistered community whose ministry was to pray for others. According to Bishop Boland, they were the “spiritual powerhouse” for the Friars’ ministry.

Bishop Boland became the third Bishop of Multan in 1966. This year he will have been a bishop for 40 years, 33 of which he spent in Pakistan.

“We built churches, dispensaries, schools, [and] convents,” Bishop Boland said. “Education was one of the big ministries,” as well as health issues and “bringing social justice to the people.”

“We did all that we could to help the people,” Bishop Boland said. “I think we were successful.”

However, the mission was not without its opposition. Much anti-Western thought dominated the area, and Christianity was often equated with the West. Some of the churches the mission had built were ransacked by terrorists beginning in the '70s.

One of the first churches built by the mission—St. Dominic’s Church in Bahawalpur—was raided in 1980 by a group of terrorists on motorcycles while people were inside. Around 30 or 40 Christians were massacred.

“The walls were all pock-marked with shells and bullet holes,” Bishop Boland said, adding, “The real tragedy was all those who were killed while they were praying.”

The volatile political situation told the foreign Dominicans “it was time,” to return home, Bishop Boland said. In addition, the community has been built up enough that it has turned things over to the local people, putting Pakistani Christians in charge of the missions. In fact, according to Boland, there are only two American Dominicans and one Italian Dominican left in the country.

“A missionary in a sense is trying to put himself out of a job,” Bishop Boland said.

A missionary’s call to “think about helping others” is an important message for PC students, said Bishop Boland. Articulating that St. Dominic was a preacher of the faith, Boland added, “Preaching takes on many different aspects.” Whether one is called to join a mission abroad, help the poor, or build the Church, he said all Christians have a responsibility to reach out.

“Whatever vocation the Lord calls us to, we can make that a part of it.”

## Class election results

### Class of 2007

**President:**  
Dan Cullinane '07

**Vice President:**  
Mike Verzino '07

**Treasurer:**  
Patty Synnott '07

**Secretary:**  
Monique Martineau '07

### Representatives:

AJ Politelli '07  
Teal Bragg '07  
Alvaro Muniz '07  
Nicole Wright '07  
Kenny Hewitt '07

### Stats

**Total Votes:**  
371

**Percent of eligible students:**  
39.2

### Class of 2009

**President:**  
Jesse DePatsy '09

**Vice President:**  
Athena Fokaidis '09

**Treasurer:**  
Guilherme Araujo '09

**Secretary:**  
Laura Ferrazzano '09

### Representatives:

Brendan Ward '09  
Billy Byrne '09  
Michelle Palermino '09  
Shannon Case '09  
Will Bromstedt '09

### Stats

**Total Votes:**  
576

**Percent of eligible students:**  
54.4

**Note:** Due to voter fraud, the Class of 2008 election results have been invalidated. The Class will vote again on Monday and Tuesday on ANGEL. Read the full story in next week's issue of *The Cowl*.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS.



At Quinnipiac University School of Law, you'll find everything you need to succeed. From a challenging yet supportive academic environment to faculty members who will become intellectual colleagues. From live-client clinics to real-world externships. Plus annual merit scholarships ranging from \$3,000 to full tuition. For more information, visit <http://law.quinnipiac.edu> or call 1-800-462-1944.

- Outstanding faculty
- Rigorous academic programs
- Six concentrations
- Extensive experiential learning opportunities
- Student faculty ratio 15:1

CRIMINAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FAMILY HEALTH INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TAX

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
Hamden, Connecticut



# LIFE Aquatic with Dr. Costello

BY CHRIS DONNELLY '08  
NEWS STAFF

*LIFE Magazine* sought the expertise of Dr. John Costello, professor of biology, for the picture of the week in a recent issue. The caption of the photograph

FACULTY  
& STAFF

featured Dr. Costello's commentary on its subject, a giant jellyfish.

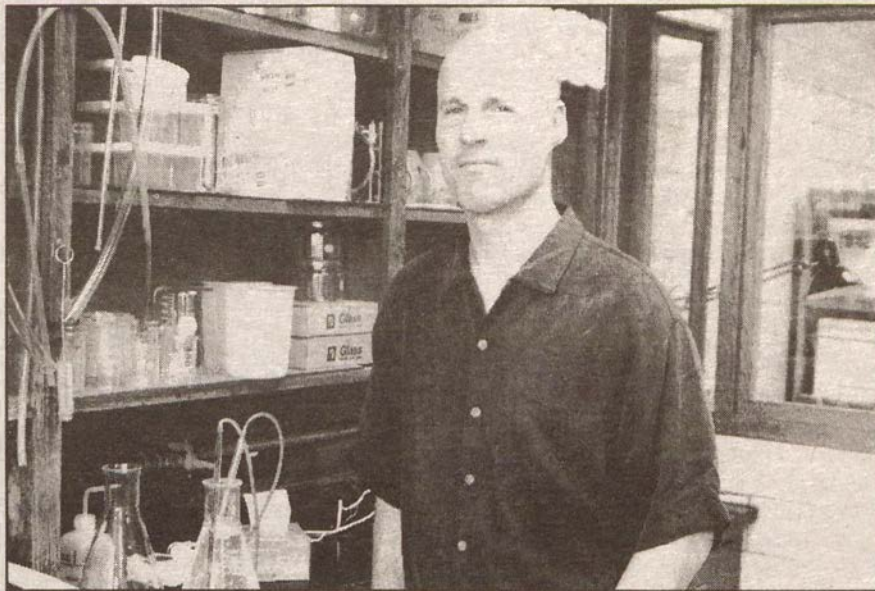
The picture showed a scuba diver next to a *Nemopilema nomurai*, a species of jellyfish found in the waters between China and Japan. The creatures have been in the news since last summer due to a recent population increase.

The caption to the photograph featured the quote, "The damage they can do to a fishing net is pretty bad," and went on to say that the species is part of "an animal group that probably predate fish."

*LIFE Magazine* contacted Costello to get information about the jellyfish. He noted that while talking to a fact checker from the magazine, he learned that some of the information he had given had been misunderstood, prompting him to contact the magazine a number of times to ensure the text was correct.

"It ran counter to any experience I've had with the media," said Costello, who has had experience in T.V. and radio in the past.

Costello, who was contacted by the



Dr. John Costello's knowledge of jellyfish was cited earlier this year in *LIFE Magazine*, but he has yet to see the article.

TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

magazine because he is a jellyfish specialist, said he does not know why he specifically was contacted but noted the number of jellyfish specialists is quite small.

Costello has been researching jellyfish ever since he received his doctorate in biology. He has done field work in a wide variety of places, such as Argentina, the Adriatic Sea, and the Narragansett Bay. His current research is principally on the feeding and motion

of the jellyfish. Students currently working with Costello include Karla Fietl '07, Emily Abbott '08, and Erica Cauterucci '07.

"He is always very encouraging," said Cauterucci. "He let me think of my own experiment. He lets you do whatever you're interested in."

Although Costello has never studied the *Nemopilema nomurai* specifically, he said he has studied smaller versions of the jellyfish. This specific type of jelly-

fish (there are more than 1000 different types) have been plaguing the waters of Japan and China. The jellyfish, which can weigh more than 500 pounds, are damaging the fishermen's nets due to their weight, as he indicated in the *LIFE Magazine* caption.

The problem is so bad that, according to *The Times of London* newspaper, "officials from Japan, China and South Korea are to meet this month for a 'jellyfish summit' to discuss strategies for dealing with the invasion." The *Nemopilema nomurai*, their sudden increase in population, and where they came from are currently being researched. One such specialist of this large jellyfish is Dr. Shin-ichi Uye, professor of biological oceanography, Costello noted.

"I still have never seen the article. I just have had people mention it to me," said Costello.

The photo was printed in the Feb. 17, 2006 issue of *LIFE Magazine*, which at one point was one of the most prominent publications in America. The magazine was forced to close shop in 1972 only to be resurrected in 1978 as a monthly, instead of weekly, publication. The magazine stopped publication again in 2000, but in 2004 found new life as a weekly publication distributed in newspapers. The publication is included in newspapers such as *The Metrowest Daily News* and *The Boston Herald*.

## Protest: Social work students speak up

continued from front page

ther defending their platform, they organized the rally, made posters, and found guest speakers to talk about the bills. The main focus was bringing proposed cuts and bills that would affect some of Rhode Island's weaker citizens to the attention of the public, who may not have been aware of the new projected legislation.

The group set out with the mission statement: "We feel that the Rhode Island Legislation Session has the potential to bring about great change. Amidst the severe proposed budget cuts, there is legislation being proposed that has the opportunity to provide hope in a future that Governor Carcieri has painted dim." As members of Providence College, the students in the class said they felt that by extension they are members of the larger Rhode Island community. Therefore, they said they should be concerned with how legislation is affecting their fellow citizens. It is also part of their rights as citizens of a democratic country to advocate and protest, they said. The protest could also serve as way to unite with the surrounding community regarding decisions that affect the entire state.

In their protest, the students tried to include bills with which students felt a connection. One bill that had everyone's support was the Family Independence Act, which, according to their platform, would increase the family payment standard by 10 percent. Despite inflation and the cost of living, the payment standard has not been raised since 1989 and many families are in need of an augmented payment standard, especially to afford the basic necessities.

Armini, in particular, said she felt strongly about the domestic violence bills.

"I think domestic violence is a big issue and something that needs to be addressed for the safety of all citizens," she said. Regarding domestic violence, the class said it supported "An Act Related to Domestic Relations Implementation of a More Thorough Children of Domestic Violence Program." This program would give children who witness acts of domestic violence the attention they deserve to help them and hopefully put an end to a cycle of abuse.

Other bills on domestic abuse included legislation that offered address confidentiality to victims and another that would add stalking and cyber stalking to the definition of assault and abuse.

"We support this bill because it would help to guard against numerous physical assaults that occur on at least 81 percent of women being stalked," said the class' platform.

On budget legislation, the class said it was in favor of An Act Relating to Rhode Island State Affairs and Government—Children, Youth, and Families Department. Under this bill, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families would increase the foster care maintenance payments by three dollars per age group; its rates had not been raised since 2000. Students in the class also said they approved legislation that helped the Refugee Resettlement Program, which

offers support to new members of the country who are trying to establish themselves in the United States.

There were two main bills that the group strongly opposed. One was "An Act Relating to Education—Foundation Level School Support." Under this act, the top 10 regional school districts would receive additional state aid for public education. The social work class was against this because it would favor the wealthier districts over poorer communities due to their advantages. The other bill they were fighting was "An Act Relating to Children and Their Families—Parent Responsibility." Financially capable parents would be forced to pay for all their court proceedings and treatment toward insubordinate children along with mandatory parental attendance at probation hearings and programs for their child. While parents are responsible for

their children, the class said it felt that incidents that take place outside of the parent's watch are uncontrollable.

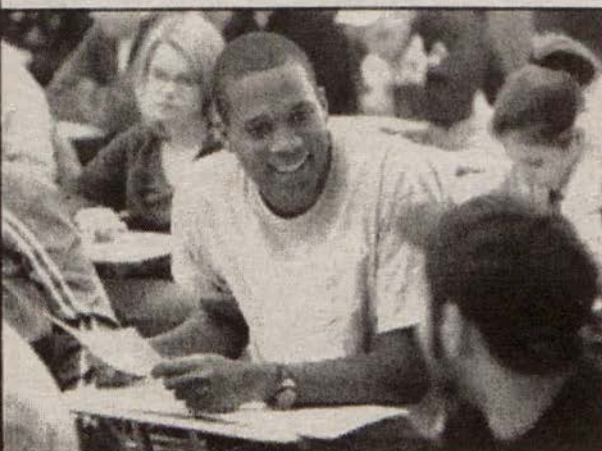
With approximately 27 people, including reporters, present at the rally, Armini said she believes that the class accomplished its mission.

"We would have liked to have more voices be heard, but I think it was an all right turnout considering the dreary weather," Armini said. Yet, community leaders were given the chance to speak on the statehouse steps and motorists could read the posters held by the students. According to Armini, the class was able to successfully organize a rally and was "able to make a statement about the importance of knowing what is going on at the statehouse and voicing opinions about political matters, particularly for college students."

### Fairfield University

Jesuit. Personal. Powerful.

### Think Summer... Think Fairfield University



Day, evening and online courses available.

Subjects Include:

• Business • English • History • Mathematics  
• Philosophy • Physics • Religious Studies • Sociology

Course details at: [www.fairfield.edu/ucpc](http://www.fairfield.edu/ucpc)

On Campus

One-Week Sessions	Four-Week Sessions
May 24-31	June 5-29
August 2-8	July 6-August 1

Online Courses

June 5-July 21  
July 5-August 25

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AT  
**Fairfield**  
UNIVERSITY  
Jesuit. Personal. Powerful.  
Fairfield, Connecticut

REGISTER NOW!

Call registrar: (203) 254-4288

For more info call: (203) 254-4110

e-mail: [ucsummerclasses@mail.fairfield.edu](mailto:ucsummerclasses@mail.fairfield.edu)



# Gym: Butts and guts on the move

continued from front page

way to go," due to safety reasons, according to Rapoza.

Rapoza said that the move was necessary because the laundry equipment, which runs on natural gas, needs to be vented to the outside. If it were to remain in its current room, the vents would be emptying into the place where the atrium is being built. Since the cardio room is on an outside wall, the equipment will be able to vent properly.

"It's important for people to understand that the amount of classes will not be curtailed," he said. "Where they're being held is the only real change."

Edward Laprey, director of intramural and recreational sports, said that holding the aerobics classes on the courts in the Peterson field house is currently the "leading option, but there are other options" that would offer more privacy and a better quality atmosphere than the field house. "We haven't closed the door on [other locations.]"

Laprey said that meetings were going to be held with both the aerobics instructors, as well as members of the administration, to discuss other suitable locations for the classes.

Athena Karalekas '07, an aerobics instructor in Peterson, said that the loss of the room in which she teaches classes is a great concern for her and the other instructors. She noted that the current room is ideal for classes, as it contains a good floor, a sound system, mirrors, and a storage space for equipment, such as weights, balls, mats, and steps. If the classes were to be held in the Peterson field house, all of these amenities would be lost, Karalekas said.

"There are no mirrors [in the field house], and I need mirrors for safety and to see my class," she said. "We can't rely

on student workers to move the equipment out there, and some people also might feel self-conscious about taking a class in the middle of the gym."

Laprey said, "We would have to address all of those concerns," such as the purchase of portable mirrors, in exploring alternative locations for the classes.

In addition, Karalekas said that space in the gym is already at a premium, as Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), varsity athletes, and intramural sports all use the facilities. She said that she doubts the field house will be able to accommodate an additional activity, especially one as large as fitness classes.

"We have 20 classes a week with about 30 people in each one," she said. "The demand is high."

"The fitness classes are tremendous, and we know we have great attendance, but they only take up 18 to 20 hours a week," Laprey said. "The cardio room is open 87 hours a week, and we need a permanent home for that equipment."

Despite the negative impact that the location change may cause, Karalekas did not see many other suitable alternatives. The classes must stay in the Peterson complex because they need supervision for safety reasons, and moving to the studios in the Smith Center for the Arts was not an option because those rooms are booked with academic classes and rehearsals for the Providence College Dance Company.

"Unless you want to go to yoga at 11:00 at night, we can't move to Smith," she said.

Many students in attendance at Monday's Butts and Guts class, taught by Karalekas, also voiced concern that the atmosphere of the room could not be replicated in the middle of the field house.

"We're in our own space, and I come because the classes are in this space," said Virgen Melendez '07. "I don't work

out anywhere else."

"It's a nice area compared to out there," said Kristin Hammond '09. "It can be kind of intimidating if people are staring at you as they're running around the track or playing basketball."

"Nobody's staring at you in here," said Shannon Gilligan '07. "It's secluded."

Students also noted the importance of the mirrors and the music.

"Having the music helps you keep the beat," said Amanda Colletti '09.

Stephanie Oliari '09, who also said that she appreciated the "bright" environment of the classroom, said that having mirrors is necessary.

"The mirrors help you to know if you're in the right place," she said.

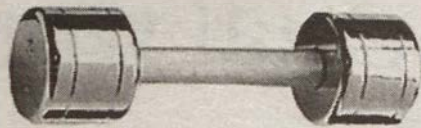
For some students, a change in location of the classes would adversely affect their workout schedules.

Nicole Facompre '09 was upset about the potential changes. "I don't go to the gym. I only go to the classes."

"If it's too weird to have classes in the gym, I probably won't come," said Gilligan.

"We're aware that [the construction] is going to interrupt a popular program," said Laprey. "I wouldn't be surprised to see participation numbers go down."

However, he emphasized that the disruptions and inconveniences would be kept to a minimum and said "to keep in mind that the reward of having a new, state-of-the-art fitness center will be worth it."



DUNIMAGES.NET

# Guests: Signed in or kicked out

continued from page 3

an annoyance to students, and it seems like there is no real way to enforce it," said John Nabozna '07.

But the Office of Residence Life said that despite its inconvenience, this policy is necessary to uphold the safety of students.

My iPod was stolen by a guest of a student, and the school could not punish anyone for it. I did get it back, but I think this new policy will make things better because guests of students would be held just as accountable for their actions as PC students themselves.

Sarah Dupont '07

"Our duty, in the Office of Residence Life, is to protect the health and safety of the entire resident community," said Sears. "All behavior in our residence halls must be governed by the core values set forth by the mission of Providence College. Reverence and respect for one's guest, one's roommates and one's hallmates are essential to building community and maintaining a positive living environment."

More information on this new policy will be posted on the residence life Web site before the end of the academic year.

## GOLD MEDAL

Since Bakery 1912

**Attention Students: Start Earning Cash Now!**  
**Work Part Time Now and**

- Potential to earn **\$14.55/hr.** incentive pay (\$12.60/hr. to start)
- \$1.00/hr. shift differential

**Check out our great summer program!!!**

- Opportunity to qualify for an end of summer **bonus** (Average student bonus of **\$400**)
- Great schedules to choose from
  - **3 Days Off Per Week!!** (8 hour shifts)
  - or-
  - **4 Days Off Per Week!!** (10 or 12 hour shifts)
- Day and evening hours available

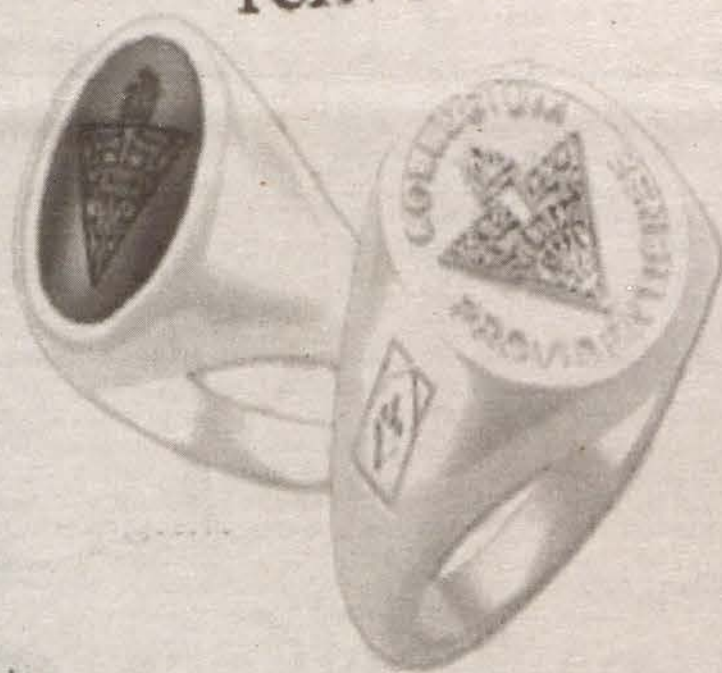
*Must be at least 18 years of age. No experience necessary. Work as a Machine Operator or Shipper*





Providence  
College

ORDER YOUR  
*Class of*  
**2008**  
RING TODAY



Lower Slavin Center  
Ring Sales Friday  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 10am - 4pm  
Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>  
through Thursday  
May 4<sup>th</sup> 10am - 4pm

[www.herffjones.com/college](http://www.herffjones.com/college)

**H** HERFF JONES



# MONEY FOR COLLEGE NOW



Because big brother's on the "Van Wilder" plan.

He's burned through his college fund and most of yours. Extend your savings and cover up to 100% of your education costs with a Campus Door student loan, featuring online approval in less than a minute. Write that down.

**[www.campusdoor.com](http://www.campusdoor.com)**

  
**CAMPUSDOOR®**  
YOUR TUITION SOURCE

Like this poster? Download your own printable PDF version at [campusdoor.com/posters](http://campusdoor.com/posters)



# THE COWL COMMENTARY

PAGE 11

APRIL 27, 2006

## Redefining gay marriage

BY TODD PAGE '08  
GUEST COMMENTARY

I have many issues with both the logic and description of marriage rights in Terence Sweeney '06's argument against gay marriage, which appeared in the March 30 issue of *The Cowl*. The most pertinent problem is his definition of marriage as the bonding of a man and woman—"uniting them as one in an unbreakable covenant which seeks joy in the other and the creation of children." This definition is unreliable and omits one important fact: there are several definitions for every word. Although Sweeney believes this to be the correct definition, there are many people and sources that define marriage differently. There is no possible way to encounter an unbiased definition of any word, however, and society and history influence every definition.

The fact that Sweeney's definition entails men and woman, for example, is largely due to the fact that as of this date, that is the way marriage in this country legally exists. Sweeney cannot currently define marriage as the bonding of two people, uniting them as one in an unbreakable covenant, etc., because marriage does not currently legally allow for this definition. Sweeney even points out that it is because his definition of marriage has not occurred yet in history that the definition is as it currently stands—and somehow concludes that this means gay marriage is unnatural. It appears to me that quite a leap is made in this conclusion. For a good amount of time, when Christians were not the majority, it was considered correct to sacrifice and kill them—should we consider these actions today?

Another problem that exists in his definition is his assertion that the creation of children is necessary. I know several married couples with no children, who feel that they would not make responsible parents. Should they reproduce if they feel that way? Shouldn't the future child's life be considered in this matter? What about those who cannot conceive? Should they be refused the right to marry? These are large holes in Sweeney's argument which cannot, and should not, be overlooked. Many homosexuals adopt children—it is a common occurrence.

Sweeney also makes the mistake of equating civil unions with marriage—they are not the same thing in title or in concept. Marriage, as he said, is a sign of a bond, and of love. But more importantly, married couples may have their ceremonies performed anywhere and may have them recognized everywhere. As of this date, same-sex couples may have a civil union performed in Vermont, but they have no guarantee that it will protect them anywhere outside of that one state. Also, close to 1,000 federal benefits that come as a part of marriage are not applied in a civil union.

I can understand many people's arguments against homosexual marriage. I in no way agree with them, but I try to listen to their viewpoints and understand why they attempt to oppress the rights of same-sex couples outside of a religious realm—supporters of gay marriage do not expect churches to recognize or support them, but they do expect our forefathers' declaration of a separation of church and state to be recognized and respected. Marriage is about love, not childbirth—and gay couples certainly understand love just as well as straight couples. They make just as capable parents, and they deserve all the rights afforded to straight couples.

## Don't expect to jump your bike on Huxley

BY COLLEEN FLYNN '07  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Is the Providence College administration out to get me? First they did a lousy job overseeing the Study Abroad Office and my transition back to PC from Spain, and then Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., cancelled my beloved *Vagina Monologues*. I was trying really hard to just grin and bear it in between protests, but after April 5, that idea went out the window.

On April 5, Sharon L. Hay, director of the Office of Student Activities Involvement and Leadership (S.A.I.L.), informed the Board of Programmers that its largest event of the year had been cancelled. The event, scheduled to take place on April 29 consisted of a partial closing of Huxley Avenue, where Red Bull would sponsor an exhibition of the TNT Motocross team. Additionally, BOP would sponsor a break-dancing group, henna tattoos, an ice cream truck, a basketball competition, and other activities.

According to Hay, the College Cabinet convened April 4 and came to the conclusion that the event would not take place. Allowing few details regarding an explanation for the cancellation, other than its supposed negative impact on the neighborhood, she reiterated that the Cabinet's decision was firm and final.

BOP received this notice three weeks from the scheduled date of the event. Pulling an event three weeks before it is set to go off, especially after BOP's Weekend Programming Committee (myself included) dedicated five months of

time, work, and budget to the event, and after Red Bull invested approximately \$10,000 into hosting the event at PC, strikes me as rather unprofessional.

What also smacks of unprofessional practice is the fact that Rev. J. Stuart McPhail, O.P., vice president of Student Services, approved the motocross proposal starting December 14, 2005, under the stipulation that the standing name, "Block Party," be changed so as not to imply a "Spring Weekend." Warren S. Gray, assistant vice president of Business Services, negotiated permission for a Red Bull-sponsored event to occur on campus, and the city of Providence granted street closure permits for Huxley Avenue. Having received basically every form of permission necessary to host the event, Weekend Programming could only ask, "Why?"

Members of the Weekend Programming committee, along with other BOP members and heads of Student Congress, met with Father McPhail on April 10 to discuss their concerns. Father McPhail assumed full responsibility for mishandled communication among the involved parties. While I respect his apology, I am not satisfied with his explanation and his conduct as an administrative official. He stated that he had reservations about the event from its conception, reservations that he did not express to Weekend Programming, other than his concern with the name. Had he made these reservations public, Weekend Programming could have resolved these issues or accepted its rejection and proceeded to use its time and money for another event.

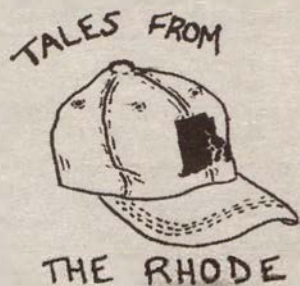
other event.

Father McPhail also stated that given PC's history with attempting to shut down Huxley Avenue, he assumed the city would halt the event's progress. I believe he wanted to let the city appear to be the bad guy to escape resentment from students. Not only is that unprofessional, but it is also immature, and as an administrator, he cannot be everyone's best friend. When received in a timely manner, their resentment will last a heartbeat compared to wasting five months of their time and effort.

His two primary concerns regarded the impact on the surrounding neighborhood and the event's appearance in conjunction with Clam Jam as a Spring Weekend. Yes, the event would increase noise; however, it would occur on a Saturday afternoon, and if the neighbors can handle Cascada every weekend morning blasting from the soccer field, I am sure they can tolerate three hours of music. Also, RIPTA and emergency vehicle access through Huxley would be hindered, but had these concerns been presented to Weekend Programming sooner, a solution could have been obtained.

As for the appearance of a Spring Weekend, BOP has hosted other back-to-back events in the past without complaint. With security and a full BOP staff, the event would not have been "beyond human control" as Father McPhail claimed. Father McPhail noted the number of incidences at Sophomore Outdoor Ball, and he could have included the same behavior at JRW and Commencement

PROGRAMMING/Page 11



BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06  
COMMENTARY EDITOR EMERITUS

Most students at Providence College think of Phillips Memorial as the only library in the neighborhood; sadly, in a few weeks, they could be right. However, for now, the Smith Hill library sits on Candace Street, tucked between Chalkstone Avenue and Orms Street, in the heart of Smith Hill. The neighborhood has had a library since 1907, and the red-bricked building on Candace Street has been serving the community since 1932. The old drafty building and tired side yard hint at the lack of funds plaguing the library, but a look inside reveals an invaluable hub of learning and socialization for the Smith Hill community.

As part of an ongoing struggle between the city and the Providence Public Library's individual branches over funding and representation, six out of the library's 10 branches could be closed down in the coming months. In addition to the Smith Hill branch, libraries in Fox Point, Olneyville, Elmwood, and Wanskuck are also in serious jeopardy. A library in Washington Park has already been closed. It should come as no surprise that the majority of the branches in danger serve low-income neighborhoods with high crime rates.

Take Smith Hill, for example. Our own neighborhood has a median family income just over \$21,000, and 33 percent of Smith Hill residents live below the poverty line. Smith Hill also accounts

## Local libraries looking at liquidation

for 20 percent of all crime in the city. To bring this issue even closer to home, the specific area around the Smith Hill library is infamously known as gun-shot circle—among the highest homicide rates in Providence. What message does it send when a struggling community loses arguably its greatest asset and its greatest hope? Where does Smith Hill go from here? I fear the emotional repercussions when the fragile community is subtly told by the city—you don't deserve books, you don't deserve computers—or at least not from us.



Beyond the stacks of print that will instantly disappear, Smith Hill will also lose a thriving community center. In the last fiscal year, starting in July 2004, the Smith Hill branch held 126 after-school programs for children spanning the ages of three years to high schoolers. A total of 747 children and 433 young adults (sixth grade and up) attended. The programs ranged from Cradle to Crayons—a toddler and adult program—to the empowering Read and Rap program in which middle and high school-aged kids wrote their own poetry and performed their work. The end result is a published compilation of the groups' completed works.

Beyond their outstanding work with children, the Smith Hill library also serves the adult population, providing family literacy programs and access to computers and Internet that otherwise wouldn't be possible.

So, what happens when the library is gone? Where do the kids go after school? Many of the kids at the library either have to be there because no one is home to watch them, or because home is not a safe place. And when a child does not feel safe in his or her own home, an alternative family such as the library is vitally important. Instead of working one-on-one with a reading tutor, or setting up science experiments in the immensely popular "Gross!" program, they are probably at home watching T.V. at best, and more often they are hanging out on the street where there are very few good influences. It is not uncommon for drug dealers to recruit middle school-aged kids to work as runners and lookouts, engrafting them into the potentially dangerous inner-city drug culture.

Luckily, cultured citizens and students alike are banding together to try to save local branches. Community meetings have been taking place, trying to organize against branch closings. Even PC students are doing their part; on Saturday, May 6, there will be a student run fashion show to raise money for the Smith Hill library. Next time you are in Phillips Memorial, look at the resources available to us everyday, think of how they enable us to learn and grow, and imagine the impact on our own community if they were suddenly to disappear. Well, at least we would still have the campus bookstore and our personal computers.

Sources: www.rijustice.com  
GRAPHIC BY: ERIC FULFORD '08



## Letters to the Editor:

### Cool it with the conspiracies

Conspiracy theorists always emerge after a disaster, and since they do not deal in reality, it is difficult to logically argue with them. Charlie Sheen is certainly one of them, and Chris Ackley '06 used Sheen as inspiration for his latest article.

Ackley throws out a few terms, such as "9/11 stand-down"—which was an instruction, not an order—as evidence that the government purposely allowed 9/11 to happen. Ackley tread on very dangerous ground, and I doubt he knows what the distinction is between an instruction and an order.

In 1975, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army proposed a doomsday scenario in which a cargo plane full of explosives would be flown into the U.S. Capitol during the State of the Union Address, and all of the high ranking officials would be spectacularly assassinated on T.V. The military leadership told him to "forget that he ever proposed such an idea." Were they directly or indirectly involved in a conspiracy? Did the conspiracy possibly go back decades and permeate the highest levels of our government, or can we just keep on going down a slippery slope until we determine there is no truth to anything, and nothing is as it seems?

This is the problem with people like Sheen, and his character is fair game for

attack by right-wing bloggers. Sheen has no moral core, and he cannot distinguish between truth and lies or good and evil. This is why he continually is in trouble with the law, and he disrespects women. He has no frame of reference for the truth, and he can justify any behavior. Thus, by extension, he makes idiotic comments regarding 9/11. He cannot bring himself to accept the truth of what really happened that day, and there must be an "alternative theory."

On 9/11, I was working in 7 World Trade Center, on the 30th floor. We were nearly wiped out by the impact of the second plane, as it flew south to north into 2 World Trade Center. I knew many people killed at the World Trade Center, and there were 6 people killed at the company I worked for at the time. Shortly thereafter, I joined the military, and I am more than a casual observer of 9/11. I have followed the story very closely, and I have never seen any convincing evidence of a conspiracy by the U.S. Government to purposely allow it to happen. I wish that people like Sheen would realize that for some of us, 9/11 is not just a cocktail party subject. It is our actual life, and it is more than an academic exercise of "alternative theories."

Christopher Roche '96

### Miss PC coverage a pretty mess

I was appalled after reading Joseph McCormick '07's article in the last *Cowl* issue about the Miss PC Pageant. How could a fellow student bash an on-campus event and other students so harshly? This article should have been presented objectively, and it was not. Secondly, a line was crossed between opinion and ridiculing the winner. For the record, the winner, Christina Nelson '08, was singing with her mouth closed, not through her nose. Apparently, his parents never taught him the "Golden Rule," because there was barely anything positive written in this article!

I am writing on behalf of myself as the producer of the pageant, my committee who worked diligently for two months on the pageant, as well as the entirety of the Future Friar Executives organization. The author implies that Nelson's talent is disrespectful to America. You want to talk disrespectful? Read your own article! An article that seeks to defame

other students and campus organizations does not exactly constitute appropriate representation of Providence College.

Lastly, the Future Friar Executives held this event to promote student involvement on campus, and by writing such a rude article, the author shot down Future Friar Executives as a club. As one of the newest organizations on campus, we are trying to gain positive input from the PC student body. He discredited this event for future years. A school newspaper that is read by more than 3,000 people weekly, by students, alumni, and parents, should not have such negative comments about an organized event that did nothing but showcase talent. I cannot believe the entire pageant was mocked, and I hope in the future this writer will keep in mind that he offended many people. He should aim to write articles that do not bash other PC students and/or campus organizations.

Ashley Niven '07

## High-steppin' in the Commentary Section!



Interested in joining our staff? Come to Slavin G5 and apply.

## THE COWL

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1935

PUBLISHER: REV. J. STUART MCPHAIL, O.P.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: MALLARY JEAN TENORE '07

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR: TIM PISACICH '07

ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: KRISTINA H. REARDON '08 HEAD COPY EDITOR: MEGAN GORZKOWSKI '08

MANAGING EDITOR: REBEKA FLUET '07

COPY EDITORS:

KIM CARON '07, GREG FUNARO '07, KATIE LEVINE '07, STEVE VITTORIOSO '07, JENNIFER O'LEARY '08

BUSINESS MANAGER: KATIE RYAN '07

NEWS EDITOR: JEN JARVIS '07

ASST. NEWS EDITOR: BETH LENEHAN '08

ADVERTISING MANAGER: CHRIS O'CONNOR '07

ASST. ADVERTISING MANAGER: LIZ MORSE '07

WORLD EDITOR: SARAH VAZ '07

COMMENTARY EDITOR: KELLY H. JONES '07

ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR: LAURA BEDROSSIAN '07

AD STAFF: RYAN ROBERTO '08

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: JAMES MCGEEHEE '08 WEBMASTERS: KRISTINA KRAKOWSKI '07

RYAN SWEENEY '07

PORTFOLIO EDITOR: MEGAN BISHOP '07

SPORTS EDITOR: KEVIN O'BRIEN '07

CIRCULATIONS: DIANE HUDAK '07, PAT RIEGEL '07, RYAN KENVILLE '07, DANIEL MURPHY '07

Moderator: Richard F. Kless

TOO  
HOT FOR  
WORDS

BY ERIC FULFORD '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF



Little known fact: Ultimate ultimate frisbee was originally developed by Aztec priests looking to expediate those pesky mass human sacrifices.

## Programming: Confusion halts event

continued from page 11

Ball as evidence for concern about alcohol consumption. In fully acknowledging these problems, why do these events continue while one with explicit alcohol prohibition does not?

Father McPhail asserted his faith in the abilities of BOP and in the legitimacy of the event, but if this is true, why was it cancelled? Motocross would have united upper and lower campus, as well as different classes, in a non-alcoholic setting, something the administration constantly pushes for and what initiated Weekend Programming's creation.

The possibility for Red Bull to host the event still seemed to linger under the auspices of the city of Providence's street permit, but after a meeting between Red Bull representatives and Hay on April 12, the administration, in more words or less, threatened that if Red Bull proceeded

further, Father Shanley would approach the city of Providence to have the permit revoked.

At this point, I have very little faith in the administration's word. Very significant verbal contracts have been broken on two occasions now, first with the *Vagina Monologues* and now with TNT Motocross. This form of administrative conduct cannot continue. I do not enjoy being told "no," but I can respect it if done properly. I can respect it more if open communication exists between the administration and students, as well as student representation in decisions, something that did not occur with TNT. The administration purports to maintain what is in the students' and the college's best interests, but without the voices or the approval of the students, this seems like yet another empty promise.

## Tangents and Tirades

**RIPTA: Really Inept at Providing Transportation Accurately** After today's Development of Western Civilization Seminar in which Professor Short expressed that college students should take every opportunity to speak their minds, I am writing my rant about the RIPTA for all to see. Like many other PC students, I depend on this fine manner of transportation to get to and from work at the Providence Place Mall. Unfortunately, however, the buses are sometimes early, late, or just don't show up at all. Such was the case on April 5 (I remember the date because everyone was freaking out about the whole 01:02:03 04/05/06 thing) when my bus to get to work didn't show at all, and the bus to get back to campus at 10p.m. drove right past me and six other PC students waiting at the mall stop, leaving us bewildered and, frankly, pissed off. So, not only was I 45 minutes late for work, resulting in my having to Windex fixtures as punishment, but I had to wait around in the wind for an extra half hour until the RIPTA driver decided to show up so I could sit next to a twelve-year-old whose parents thought it was a good idea to get him a Nextel with the walkie feature, which beeped during the entire ride to PC. So, RIPTA, my point is that as much as I love you, I would appreciate if you would please try to be on time: not five minutes early, not twenty minutes late, and most definitely not bypassing PC altogether. —Alyssa Loring '08

**Scrum and coke** I saw a bumper sticker the other day that said: "Rugby. No Winners, Only Survivors." Now, I know rugby is a pretty rough and tumble sport, with a lot of eye gouging, man-lifting and the occasional aviation cap. But get over yourselves—ever heard of the Mayan Ball Game? Predating the Olympics, Astro-Turf, and Julio Franco the Mayan Ball game truly lives up to your clearly exaggerated bumper sticker. In the Mayan Ball Game, all it took was one goal and the game was over and losers were ceremoniously killed. So, to the PC rugby squad, if you really want to live up to the bad boy bumper sticker, next time you beat University of Hartford, instead of drinking up with them on the party porch, try sacrificing them to appease the gods of agriculture and trade.—Chris Ackley '06

### COWL LETTERS POLICY

The *Cowl* welcomes guest commentaries and Letters to the Editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. The *Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

and do not reflect the viewpoint of The *Cowl* staff.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed or faxed to The *Cowl* office no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to Box 2981 Providence, RI 02918, fax to 401-865-1202, submit online at [www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com), e-mail to [thecowl@providence.edu](mailto:thecowl@providence.edu), or hand deliver to The *Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-865-2214 with any questions.

WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTION RATE IS \$30.00 PER YEAR BY MAIL. STUDENT SUBSCRIPTION IS INCLUDED IN TUITION FEE. CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO: THE COWL, PROVIDENCE COLLEGE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02918.



# Senior takes time to count the many Smith Hill blessings

BY ERIN RICE '06  
COMMENTARY STAFF

I do not feel as though I have any wise words to impart on anyone who may read this article. However, I do feel it is necessary to end my short-lived career on *The Cowl* Commentary staff on a good note. I have spent a lot of my time writing about the things I have encountered at Providence College that I do not like and hope to see changed. Now that I have only two weeks left of college, I think it is time to put the criticism aside in order to reflect on what is great about PC and what has kept me coming back for four years.

First and foremost, there are some amazing professors and faculty here at PC. There are so many who go out of their way on a daily basis for their students. On numerous occasions I have heard professors talk about their love for this institution and their commitment to it. I have never felt like just a number in a class here. This is not the case at every college or university. We are fortunate

to have a small student-to-professor ratio, and I strongly believe that this is a key element in good education.

Besides being a huge help when playing Trivial Pursuit, Development of Western Civilization is one of the best classes I have ever taken. It truly defines a Providence College education. It has its faults, but I believe it provides a solid, well-rounded base that supports the curriculum for any major. I hated waking up for 8:30 Civ five days a week, as most freshman and sophomores do, but in hindsight, it was not all that bad. Someday we may find ourselves at a dinner party making obscure references to Gilgamesh, King of Uruk, and everyone will assume we are intelligent and well read when we really just suffered through two years of DWC. It not only educates us in four major disciplines, but it created a bond between PC students; love it or hate it, we all went through it, and when we walk across the stage at Commencement, it is one thing that all of us have in common.

When the Class of 2006 arrived in September 2002, there was no such thing

as "the Suites" or the "Smith Center." There was only one quad, there was only one line at Ray, and if you did not like what they were serving, there was chicken and mashed potatoes every night, without fail. There was a little white house where there is now a field of turf, and there was a beach volleyball court which is now long gone. There was even a tiny hill under a tree behind the soccer field where students would take the lunch trays stolen from Ray to go sledding. Our campus has changed tremendously, but there are a few things that have not changed at all. In my opinion, St. Dominic Chapel remains one of the greatest buildings on this campus.

Even if you are not Catholic or religious at all, St. Dominic's can be appreciated simply for its aesthetics and octagonal architecture. In fact, our little chapel is modeled after one of the most beautiful Byzantine churches in the world, San Vitale, from Ravenna, Italy. I am sure, after four years on this campus, that this is the most relaxing, stress-free spot on campus. When there is no Mass going on, St. Dominic's is silent and dark

and usually completely empty, and it is a great place to escape for a couple minutes during the day.

I have often wished that PC was in downtown Providence or on the East Side, but I have learned to love our spot on Smith Hill. We may not have an ethnically diverse student population, but we live in one of the most diverse neighborhoods in all of Providence. We need only step out of the campus gates to experience it (and by this I do not mean walking to Clubbies).

We also have great small businesses in our neighborhood that are so often overlooked. The Admiral Spa makes a mean stack of pancakes, and I will go out on a limb here and say that any bread or pastry from LaSalle Bakery on Smith Street beats the pants off what you could find on Thayer Street.

So, I suppose I do have a few words of advice. We are lucky to be here, and we are lucky to be spending our days getting a great education. There is so much opportunity at PC—take it, appreciate it, and enjoy it while you have it. Four years go by in the blink of an eye.

## Calling for overnight camping trips

BY SHANNON OBEY '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF

A couple of weeks ago, I volunteered as a board member of the Outdoor Adventure Club to work at a table on Family Day, or what other schools refer to as "Accepted Student's Day."

**CAMPUS** I did not know what to expect placed at a table between two dominant groups: Colleges Against Cancer and the Dance team, as both had big signs and dance routines to show off to the incoming freshman, while two others and I stood in front of our table with nothing but our out-of-date poster and club T-shirt on display.

I knew we had a lot to offer with our monthly rock-climbing and kayaking adventures, paint-balling trips, and especially with our ski trips that no other club on campus offers, so I thought if we could get their attention as they walked by, we would be golden. We had quite a few people come up to us who seemed interested in the ski trips, and when we told them we went to places like Cannon, Ragged, and Killington they were somewhat impressed. They were not impressed, however, that these trips were just day trips. It got even worse when they asked us about camping trips and we had to tell them that we were not allowed to run any overnight camping trips.

We were forced to defend ourselves against verbal attacks including: "What kind of outdoors club doesn't even have camping trips?" and "Have you seen UMass' outdoors club? Now that is something you guys should take a look at—they're amazing!" To be quite honest, I began agreeing with them. I have seen the activities other colleges participate in, hiking and camping as they go along some mountain ridge for the entire weekend, and I have often felt envious. Despite loving Providence College, I am a lover of the outdoors and I began to wonder if I had chosen the right school. Perhaps I should have applied to UMass. We told the parents that we thought the lack of weekend events was due to our school's reluctance to allow co-habitation, as evident in on-campus parietals.

However, Rev. J. Stuart McPhail, O.P., vice president of Student Services, explained that the reason overnight camping trips are not allowed is not because of parietals but rather because of other legal issues. Even so, the restriction seems unfair.

I recently went on Habitat for Humanity with six other females and two

males, and we slept side by side for a week at a Girl Scout camp and on the floor of an old habitat house with no supervision. And then there is Relay for Life where everyone, males and females, sleep in a gym all night. I do believe both count as co-habitation and both are approved. Yes, in both cases it was necessary to have co-habitation, but what makes those events any more important than the survival of the Outdoor Adventure Club? If they can have "sleepovers" including members of the opposite sex, then why couldn't we? After all, the parents at Family Day were right: what kind of outdoors club doesn't provide camping trips for their members?

The club has tried in the past to get camping trips approved but to no avail. Earlier in the year, the club even tried to run a leadership weekend for people who would be interested in leading camp-outs in upcoming years. It would have been led by a Maine native, a wilderness expert. We would learn all about camping, so that our apparent lack of knowledge about the wilderness could not be used as an excuse to not let us go, though most of us had been Boy/Girl Scouts and we did actually know quite a bit about surviving a camping trip. But alas, the trip fell through, and so did a year's worth of quality camping.

I am fully aware that this article is not going to reverse the ruling and allow us to suddenly go on camping trips, nor do I expect it to. I would simply like the college to see how having an outdoors club that could participate in activities like weekend camping and ski trips would help the college attract more potential students to Providence College.

At Family Day, there were dozens of potential students who were choosing between a few different schools, and while I know one club is not going to make or break their decisions, if they are avid skiers or outdoors men/women it might weigh on their decision in a negative way, and they might choose a different school that has a better outdoors club.

Not only that, but who likes getting up at 5:00 a.m. to go skiing and coming back later that night? Who likes having to hike at Blue Hills every time you want to go hiking because all the higher mountains are too far away to go to and hike for only one day, and Rhode Island is as flat as a pancake? This rule is not only impeding the school; it is also impeding the club, and it is not right. And just for the record, nothing improper or sexual happened that week on the floors of the Habitat house—just strong bonds and great friendships. Why not let other club sponsored events do the same?

## PC contributes to African libraries

BY BETSY ROULEAU '08  
COMMENTARY STAFF

Papers, projects, and finals—it's getting to be that time of year. It seems that the end of the semester is the busiest time for both students and professors. It's also

**SERVICE** that time when college students sort out the books they purchased over the course of the semester and decide what can be sold back to the bookstore. Providence College students have a different option this year—the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs is running a PC chapter of the Books for Africa Campaign. Each residence hall and even the chapel have been given a book bank, where students can leave any book to be collected by a fairly new and extremely worthwhile charity.

Founded in 1988 by Tom Warth and located in St. Paul, Minnesota, Books For Africa is a charity that collects books of all levels and genres (primarily post-secondary picture books, novels, and textbooks) and sends them to the countries that suffer from "book famine." The goal of the organization is to increase literacy throughout Africa because many developing nations lack books in their schools and libraries. It is not unusual to see five or six children sharing a picture book at school—if books are available at all.



According to the Books For Africa Web site, it is the "largest shipper of donated textbooks to the African continent." More than 13 million books have been shipped to 26 countries in Africa. The books are collected throughout the United States, sent to the warehouse in the Midwest and, from there, shipped to Africa. Upon arrival, local charity organizations within the countries distribute the books to the institutions (schools and libraries) that need them most. It costs about 38 cents to send one book to Africa.

Due to the increased media attention surrounding the crises in Africa, most Americans are slowly becoming aware of the situation at hand. Africa contains one-eighth of the world's population and has the highest birthrate in the world.

However, due to malnutrition, limited access to medicine and clean water, political instability, civil war, droughts, and poverty, the people of Africa are suffering. In some countries such as Ethiopia and Kenya, more than two million people suffer from HIV or AIDS, and the average life expectancy in these countries ranges from 34-50 years. Furthermore, since communication and transportation are often inadequate, it is difficult for supplies to reach those that need them. Books For Africa is a charity that has overcome many obstacles to reach at-risk populations, and its goals are slowly but surely being achieved.

PC Students have an amazing opportunity at hand; BMSA is running a book drive in conjunction with Better World Books and Books for Africa. Earlier this year, a representative from Better World Books approached the Balfour Center to see if there would be interest at Providence College. Diana Vembenil '06, vice president of BMSA, said the goal of the program is to "spread literacy around the world." Polyana DeOliveira, '07, president of BMSA, said that this is a "simple and morally fulfilling" way for American students to connect with other students throughout the world. "PC students have resources that they no longer need. We can help children or university students in Africa learn the things we have learned," DeOliveira said. Instead of selling back a book for only \$1, students can instead donate books that will go to a far greater purpose. Students can leave books in their residence hall offices, the Balfour Center on the third floor of Harkins Hall or in the Campus Ministry Center located in the lower level of St. Dominic Chapel.

Members of the PC community are extremely fortunate to be able to experience higher education. We have no shortage of books and resources; our only complaint is the amount of money we spend on books each semester. We express frustration at the work we must perform for our classes, but in so many other areas of the world, individuals fight to achieve any form of education, knowing that education is one of the only ways to break the cycle of poverty in these developing nations. This charity offers a concrete and simple way for college students to contribute to the world community and to be an example of solidarity—to stand for education at any and every level. We have been given amazing opportunities through our studies here at PC and it is time to extend that gift to others who are eager to learn.

Sources: booksforafrica.org  
GRAPHIC BY: Kelly Jones '07



# Looking for mystery, adventure, punctuation?



## Come down to Slavin G05 and fill out an application today!



# A filmmaker's story

*Matt Weber '06 reflects on four years of filmmaking and his vision for PC-TV, offering his thoughts on the future of independent filmmaking at Providence College*

BY JAMES MCGEEHEE '08  
A&E EDITOR

I walked Thayer Street last week. Thayer Street on an April night. Now you expect a description—the people, the venues, the breeze that makes you regret having worn shorts. I cannot remember enough to write anything but a standard description with imaginary nuances. Even if I were on Thayer Street now, could my words render the image I see into your mind's eye? A photograph may suffice, except for the absence of the wind rustling branches and the conversations of passing folk.

In Earth's 4.5 billion years, she has yielded unto man only one medium that can capture past life. Although this medium just celebrated its centennial, only in the past two decades has it been made widely available to non-professionals. How lucky are we that after 4.499 billion years, film falls from the technological sky like divine precipitation to grace our generations?

I walked Thayer Street last week with Matthew Weber '06 before chatting student cinema over Antonio's by the slice. "This would make a great shot," he said of the linear perspective distance imposed on the street. If you make enough films, this is how you begin to think; in about four years, Weber has made almost 50 films, among them *Slice* (ripped from *Saw*) and the "transcendental comedy" *Stan*. "I don't claim to be a great filmmaker. I claim to be a good filmmaker who can work exceptionally quickly. I have told a lot of stories."

During the first semester of the 2004-05 school year, Weber aired a short film on the PC-TV network every weekend, generally on channel 52. The most amazing part is not that Weber became a super-prolific one-man studio, but that people actually watched his product. Weber then decided to push what started as an independent study to the next step. He sought to transform PC-TV into an official club, progressing as far as drafting a constitution and hosting a meeting for all interested parties.

If you are wondering why Weber's weeklies no longer air, well, Weber's cocoon never did grow into his envisioned butterfly. "I couldn't keep it up," he said. "There were so many hurdles [to establishing PC-TV as an official club]. And I wasn't getting any sleep." Losing the grand vision, Weber's prolificacy dwindled to an every-so-often thing. Still, I would not call his project a failure. Weber continues to make films—he was the only PC filmmaker represented at autumn's campus Video Slam. More im-



PHOTOS AND GRAPHIC BY JAMES MCGEEHEE '08 AND KATIE LEVINE '07

portantly, he moved to unite campus filmmakers through a subsidized club, so filmmakers could share in crafting the art.

"That's what makes film great. It fuses together people, ideas, stories," Weber admits film's social aspect has its downside. "You have to manage different schedules. And you're working with people who aren't getting paid and who are not trained to act. It would be nice to have a sound guy, but it's trouble enough scrounging up actors."

While individuals can fuse together to create a piece, that means nothing if people do not fuse together to view the finished product. "I do it for public consumption, for friends to watch," said Weber, confirming that Emily-Dickenson-style filmmakers must not find much fulfillment.

No big wonder it is that Weber pushed hard to have student films shown on the network. "I am convinced students make a lot of stuff that is never shown," Weber lamented. "If students make films, those films need to be shown at monthly campus airings of projects. After the copyright controversy of the past month, much vacuous space occupies the net-

work channels."

Weber here speaks not for himself. He will not be the man to fill the void, because soon he will pass from the ranks of working PC filmmakers, leaving the doors open for others to carry on what he began. Does Weber believe his conceived plan for PC-TV will ever come about? "That depends. If enough kids see films as more than just a semester class, it very well could. But going through Academic Media Services [which controls the network] can be hard. It would be great if AMS could offer more editing instruction and extended editing hours."

Later I spoke with Deirdre Synan '07, an executive-producer of PC Magazine, the PC-TV broadcast assembled by Rev. Kenneth Gumbert's production class. Synan's outlook is mixed. "Interest is definitely growing. Father Gumbert overenrolled so many students he had to break his class into two sections." Although the production classes attract more students every semester, Synan is not sure if Weber's vision for a PC-TV club could become reality. "It's possible," she said, "but you need one person with a lot of time, dedication, and

knowledge on the subject. And I don't know if that person exists on campus."

Looking back, though, Weber has no regrets. "It's hard taking things into your own hands, but you have to do what you are passionate about." Even though he has directed and edited almost 50 films, Weber's favorite aspect of filmmaking is acting. He has played a pilgrim traveling to discover the meaning of life, a victim of a ruthless killer, a homicidal gang-leader, and, of course, an exaggerated version of himself in documentaries.

Weber's final words reiterate his ethos. "I suspect somewhere between five to 10 percent of kids on this campus have had experience editing media. It's not that the interest does not exist. Filmmakers just need a means to come together and a means to show their work." The passing of a film minor is a start, but Providence College has miles to go before it earns any reputation for film.

As Weber stated before, if students see film as something more than just a semester class, if they recognize it as an art to channel creative and innovative spirits, to fuse people, stories, and ideas, then we may get somewhere.



Mike Holland '06 has the scoop on this Saturday's hio-hop concert featuring Akrobatik.



Megan Bishop '07 reviews the independent student production of *The Laramie Project*.



# Picks of the Week

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



## Movie

*Notorious*  
Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

The first time I watched this film the last five minutes were missing off the end, and I literally could not sleep until I was able to find out what happened next. Hitchcock's 1946 classic has it all: stunning lighting and cinematography, brilliant acting courtesy of Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant, and a thoroughly compelling storyline. It mixes the flair of exotic lands and mysterious crimes with a love affair between Bergman's Alicia and Grant's Devlin that comes together in all the right ways.

## Music



Alejandro Sanz  
*No es lo mismo*  
Warner Latina

Maybe I just like this CD because it reminds me of Madrid, or maybe I'm just obsessed with Spanish culture. Either way, Sanz displays solid vocals over an innovative combination of rock and rap in between traditional Spanish flamenco beats. The poetry of his lyrics doesn't hurt the ears much, either. Even if you don't speak Spanish, it's worth checking out.



## Book

*Mrs. Dalloway*  
by Virginia Woolf

I've read this book eight times or so, and every time I love it just a little bit more. Maybe it's the style, the richness of the language, or even the imagery, which are all strong in this experimental novel, but what strikes me the most every time I read this book is how real the characters seem to me. I'm not sure if any author before or after Woolf is able to let readers into the subtle workings of the mind quite like she does.

## Urban Elements

# Who wants to be a (G-Unit) millionaire?

BY RYAN BURNS '08  
A&E STAFF

Mobb Deep  
*Blood Money*  
Interscope

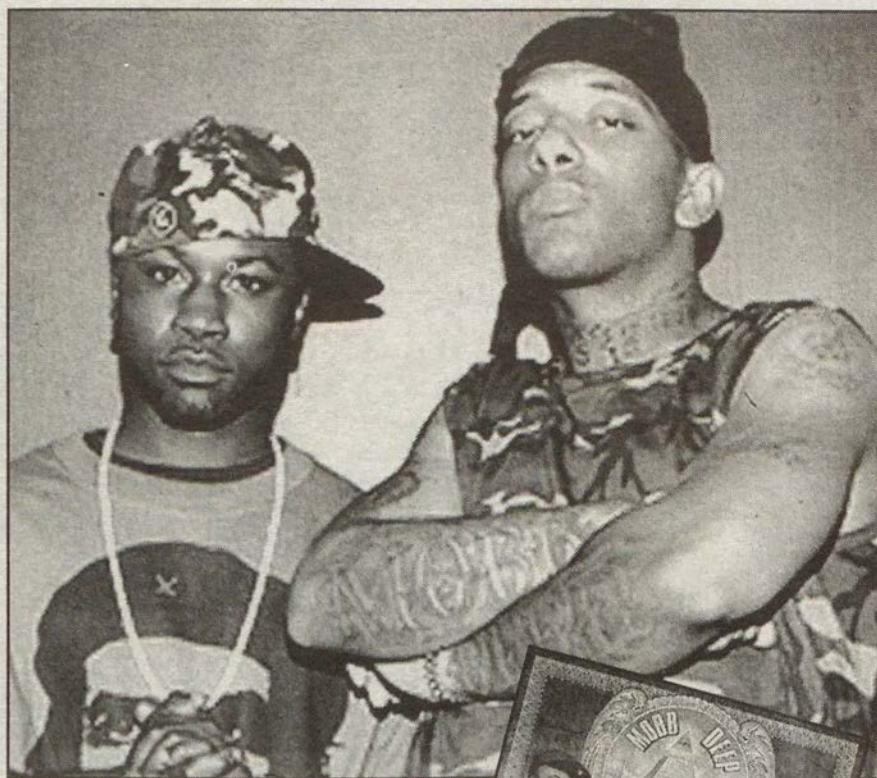
In mid 2005, when Queens hip-hop legend Mobb Deep signed with 50 Cent's G-Unit imprint, the rap world buzzed about the future of one of the most respected groups in the rap game. Ever since the debut album *Juvenile Hell*, Prodigy and Havoc blessed hip-hop with many classic songs from critically acclaimed albums. With classic albums like *The Infamous* and *Hell On Earth*, Mobb Deep has staked its claim as a legend, but recently Mobb Deep has come under attack for a decline in skill and quality music. Ever since 2001, when Jay-Z embarrassed Prodigy on stage at Summer Jam in New York City, the grimy emcee has not been the same. Not even Havoc's outstanding production on their fourth and fifth albums could cover that Mobb Deep was on the decline.

When it was signed to G-Unit records, there was a possibility that it would come back, resurrected and reassured by the fact that it had 50 Cent's empire firmly in its corner. This was, of course, assuming that Havoc and Alchemist would handle the production and that Prodigy would improve a bit in the lyrical department.

Unfortunately for Mobb Deep, and more unfortunately for their fans, their new album *Blood Money* does little to further their legacy. The album plays out not as a Mobb Deep record, but rather as a G-Unit Compilation with 50 Cent on six of the album's 16 tracks and other G-Unit members on three other songs. Over 50 percent of the entire album has features on it, and interestingly enough, none of these tracks features previous collaborators like Noyd or Infamous Mobb.

It is clear that the money has changed Mobb Deep, as the newly titled "Hollywood" Hav and V.I.Pee spend most of the album discussing how much money they have, now that it has sold its soul—I mean, signed a contract with 50 Cent. Songs like "In Love With The Moula" and "Backstage Pass" are surely a long way from the days of "Survival of The Fittest" and "Drop A Gem On 'Em." After completing their verses, Hav and P sing 50 Cent's praises, calling him Curtis "Billion Dollar Budget" Jackson. Apparently Curtis spent 15 of those "Billion Dollars" to make this album, as the production borders on bad. Havoc only produced a handful of beats, and Alchemist handled just one. The remainder of the beats sound like 50 Cent went on MySpace and tried to find the cheapest beats available. I wonder what 50 Cent did with the rest of the budget.

Aside from the production slipping, Prodigy's rhyme skills have fallen off completely. Not even Havoc's beats can save him, as they did on Mobb Deep's last album. Prodigy went from slick, lyrical flow in his early days to sounding like someone who just woke up out of a coma and is re-learning how to talk. Many of his rhymes simply don't rhyme, and coupled with his lazy, half-asleep flow, this had me scratching my head while listening to them. Lines like, "L, M, N, O, Pee/ heavy metal things/ but my 2007



**Mobb Shallow:** Even 50 Cent's "Billion Dollar Budget" fails to make up for Mobb Deep's bad lyrics and lazy flow, as their new album, *Blood Money*, falls short of expectations.



guns is plastic/ for you crackheads the new crack is Mobb Deep," are just ridiculous. Seriously, Prodigy, what are you talking about? You were one of my favorite rappers of all-time, but your new flow sounds like you need a spot in a retirement home.

The album, however, isn't that bad—after all, it is a new Mobb Deep record, and compared to the other music in the mainstream, this sounds like Mozart. "Speakin' So Freely" has a creepy guitar loop and features Havoc and Prodigy's best lyrical performance on the entire album. "Pearly Gates," featuring 50 Cent is probably the best song on the album. Over a church sounding organ sample, the trio rhyme about crossing over to the other side. And perhaps more interesting than anything else, "It's alright," featuring 50 Cent and Mary J. Blige, features a beat that uses the same sample

that Mobb producer Alchemist used for a Prodigy song a few years ago. I'm surprised at the lack of loyalty that Mobb Deep showed to its longtime friends. Then again, with 50 Cent and the Interscope monster pulling the strings, it's not so unbelievable after all.

*Blood Money* was a critical album for Mobb Deep and its Prodigy especially. It is now clear that Prodigy will never be the emcee that he once was, and with 50 Cent pulling the strings and dominating his artist's albums with his visions, the Mobb will never be the same.

I hope Mobb Deep will sell albums so it can talk about how much money it can make on its next album. Even hardcore Mobb Deep fans will have a hard time defending these guys with this effort.

GRADE: C-

## McPhail's Line Up

Thurs 4/27

### Revival Live!

Get down to McPhail's early & get ready for a great night of music!  
Full bar w/ID @8pm

Fri 4/28

### Fortune!

Come down to McPhail's after the Clam Jam and enjoy an entertainment packed Friday night. Full bar w/ID @ 4:30pm. Band @ 9:30pm.

Sat 4/30

### The Biltmores!

The Biltmores are back!  
This Saturday at 9pm,  
Full bar w/ID @ 8pm





They've already helped  
guide the accounting  
standards of an  
entire nation.  
What's next?\*

## xACT 2006

This spring, 55 students, supported by the entire accounting department faculty, were given a difficult task: Challenge established thinking on the accountant's role and its impact on the capital market in the land of Panadrevia. Their ideas were evaluated by a panel of PricewaterhouseCoopers professionals, who named the top teams.

Join us in congratulating all the students who participated and the top first place teams from Providence College:

### Lady Friars

Lauren Bowe  
Kristen Brown  
Meghan Bruce  
Rachel Gibbons  
Breanna McKeegan

### Assets Unlimited LLP

Melissa Couturier  
Gregory Hartwell  
Kate Murray  
Thomas Quinn  
Jennie Rezukey

\*connectedthinking

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 



# Akrobatik brings his tricks to PC

BY MIKE HOLLAND '06  
A&E STAFF

Imagine a hip-hop show at Providence College. As a feature writer for *The Cowl* with hip-hop pouring through my veins, it has been a common and consistent

## CAMPUS FEATURE

struggle promoting my beloved music that I love upon deaf ears. Let's face it: most students at PC just don't get into hip-hop. Those who say they do are oftentimes clouded by the commercial ventures in popular music that most often regress from hip-hop's genuine roots. However, a quality hip-hop show presented by WDOM-FM is coming this Saturday, April 29, to '64 Hall, showcasing a wealth of talent and headlining Akrobatik, it will help break that mold.

Those hip-hop fans who have any grasp on the underground circuit already know about Akrobatik. This Boston-bred emcee stacks up an impressive resume when it comes to the art of "ripping the mic to pieces." Through his extensive solo work, and as a member of the Perceptionists crew (along with Mr. Lif and DJ Fakts One), Akrobatik has collected a fan-base that reaches across international borders.

Versed in a diverse approach, yet maintaining a consistent delivery, Akrobatik embodies versatility. Not your average one-dimensional emcee, Akrobatik prides himself on his ability to bring together socially-conscious subject matter with elaborate wordplay and gripping on-stage control. His name was chosen as a representation of his ability to "flip" any style and command a comprehensive collection of content.

Akrobatik first got a hand in the hip-hop game with the 1998 12-inch release of "Ruff Enuff," on Detonator Records. He later garnered more widespread appeal with the single "Internet MCs" for the more well-known label Rawkus Records in 2000. Since then, he has climbed up the underground ladder on a consistent ascension, becoming very attractive for any hip-hop label.

On his latest solo release, *Balance* (2003), Akrobatik compiled a collection of addictive tracks acknowledging the importance of a life between extremes. Not unlike his fellow teammate, Mr. Lif, Akrobatik understands the power of a concept album. Tracks like "Remind My Soul" and "Wreck Dem" are all reasons for checking out this emcee's ability to rhyme.

As a member of The Perceptionists,



COUP D'ETAT

**Hip-hop fans delight:**  
WDOM 91.3 brings something completely unprecedented to Providence College as PC rappers Scott Free (right) and Shoeless Jeff collaborate with emcee Akrobatik (above) this Saturday.

Akro has stayed consistent in his capacity to attract listeners. Tracks from their 2005 album *Black Dialogue*, like "Weapons of Mass Destruction," and "Love Letter," remain consistent in appeal, though ranging drastically in subject matter.

Added to a hard-hitting and catchy beat selection, Akrobatik's rhyme style flows smoother than the Charles River. This release heralded Akrobatik his most successful year in the game, compiling more than 150 tour-dates in 2005 and a spot on the *Rolling Stone* Magazine's prestigious Top 50 Records of the Year list—the only independent hip hop record to do so.



TIM PISASICH '07/The Cowl

In the course of his career, Akro has collaborated with artists like Guru of Gangstarr, KRS-One, Eminem, The Roots, Digital Underground, and even A Tribe Called Quest. He is also rumored to be working with Little Brother for a track on his newest upcoming release, due this summer. It truly feels as though Akrobatik will be gracing the stage at Providence College during what seems to be his professional peak.

I have seen Akrobatik in concert twice before, both times here in Providence. He always puts on a good show for those whom he considers his neighbors, and he loves those who support New England pride with him.

For those who still need convincing, there will be a number of acts opening up for Akrobatik who will be sure to keep the mood right. Poorly Drawn People and Need Not Worry are two acts hailing from little Rhody who already hold considerable fan-bases of their own.

Also performing at the show are Scott Free and Shoeless Jeff with a live band, Sandman Esq. and RSun—all students of Providence College. The DJ for the night will be Dusty Frazier, a Rhode Island legend and a veteran of the game.

Whether for school spirit, local pride or for the love of hip-hop music, anyone can find a great reason to attend this event.

Wed. May 3, 7:00 PM  
Ryan Concert Hall  
Free Admission

Video Fest '06

a juried showcase of videos by  
Providence College students and alumni



Providence College Department of Theatre,  
Dance, and Film Presents...

## Spring Dance Concert

student choreography showcase

29 April 8 pm  
30 April 2 pm

Angell Blackfriars Theatre  
Smith Center for the Arts

TICKETS: (401) 865-2218





# Taste of the Town

with Stephanie A. Smith '06  
A&E Editor Emeritus

**McFadden's**  
52 Pine St.  
Providence, R.I.  
(401) 861-1782

So, I thought it would be nice to go out to a nice early dinner/late lunch the other day, and one of my roommates suggested that we go to McFadden's. To be honest, I had totally forgotten that McFadden's served food. I seem to only think of it when I want to go downtown for a drink. Although, for the record, you get a better pint of Guinness at RiRa than at McFadden's, but more about this later. Anyway, some companions and I ventured down to McFadden's during a late afternoon last week and could not find a (free) place to park. We ended up parking on a side street, and although we had a sneaking suspicion that it was a no parking zone, some kindly gentlemen who worked across the way assured us that we would not get a ticket. So, nervous about the parking but too hungry to care, we sat down for a meal.

**Atmosphere:** McFadden's looks very different during the day than it does at night. It is actually very spacious inside and the dark wood and booths make the dining area inviting. There are two bars



www.mcfaddensprovidence.com

that stretch around the room and the huge front windows that look onto the street were completely open because of the fair weather. It was very pleasant. Although there was music playing, the place was pretty quiet for somewhere that we thought people would go after work. It was relatively dark in there, too, and so we felt very relaxed. McFadden's is definitely the type of place to go if you just want to sit around with a sandwich and a few drinks. It seems like a great after-work hangout.

**Selection:** Well, McFadden's is a self-

described "saloon," so it serves its own version of pub grub. Appetizers include chicken or scallop skewers, buffalo tenders, spinach and artichoke dip, nachos, and the like. No big surprises there. Entrees involve chicken (chicken balsamica, chicken parm), steak (self-explanatory), and seafood (grilled salmon, fish and chips). There are also salads, soups, burgers, and sandwiches. What caught my attention, though, were the "sliders." They are "bite-sized burgers." Needless to say, I was intrigued.

**Quality:** OK, so those sliders are bigger than bite-sized. And I don't take little baby bites either. They are good size and you get five—it is plenty of food. I got the BBQ Bacon Sliders which are little burgers topped with cheddar cheese, bacon, and sauteed mushrooms. They were a little soggy and the buns did not seem fresh, but they were kind of fun to eat, or, just look at. The regular-sized burger was the same story, but the chef salad was good and contained very fresh veggies, ham, roast beef, turkey, bacon, Swiss cheese, and egg.

**Service:** Our waitress was very friendly and the food came out very quickly. ... but the pint of Guinness that I ordered was not poured properly and so the frothiness was all off. I was very upset.

**Affordability:** Entrees are very reasonable, around \$12.

**Overall:** The food here is so-so; I will continue to think of McFadden's as just a cool bar.

**GRADE: B-**

## Words from Wyoming

### The Laramie Project *tells the tragic story of the aftermath of a brutal hate-crime*

BY MEGAN BISHOP '07  
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

I don't cry at plays. I just don't. There is usually something so artificial about people in makeup and costumes that makes me feel as though I'm in an audience and they are on a stage, someplace

I can never relate to.  
Do I like it? Yes. But, do I cry? Absolutely not. So, you may expect my sheer astonishment when I could not suppress the tears that welled in my eyes as I watched *The Laramie Project* this past weekend.

#### THEATER REVIEW

A play by Moises Kaufman and the members of the Tectonic Theater Project, *The Laramie Project* is set in Laramie, Wyoming, from 1998-99 and was written with a purpose—to tell the story of Matthew Shepard. Shepard, a young gay 21-year-old man, was robbed, tortured, and left for dead on the basis of a hate.

Even today, nearly eight years later, the ripples from his murder are being felt around the world, challenging many to question the true meaning of toleration.

*The Laramie Project* follows a different form than most plays. There are no scenes, just a juxtaposition of actors and words, with eight players representing 72 different residents of Laramie and members of the Tectonic Theater Project. To research the play, various members of the theater project visited Laramie and its surrounding area six different times, conducting more than 200 interviews. It was from the dialogue of these interviews, and the journals of the group members, that the play was written.

Each actor conveys a different portion of the story through someone else's eyes, each being responsible for at least

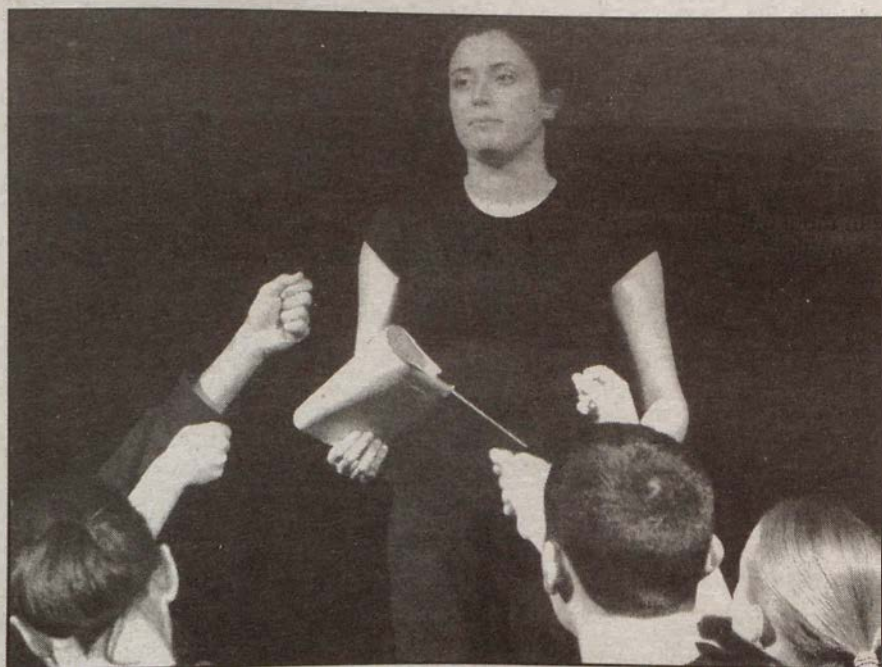


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND FILM

eight different identities that occur continuously throughout the play. Often, their words are preceded by an introduction from an ominous voiceover, clarifying their role and relationship to Shepard. And though each actor portrays his or her character as a separate individual, there is a distinct consistency, an ominous unity among members of a town who struggle to accept that the difference they had learned to tolerate is now something they feel they should embrace.

The set and costumes are simple, almost unidentifiable to the senses. The actors wear all black, females with their hair tied tightly back, and all members are barefoot. The set consists of a stark black floor, black curtains, black boxes, risers, chairs, all moveable, but seem-

ingly stagnant—an organized chaos. Littering the ground are props for each of the characters to wear—glasses for a professor, or a jean vest for a friend of the murderer, for example. All the actors play their roles, adorning themselves in their props, and then they take off their props, and assume new characters. Each identity has its own position on stage and its own posture, making it easy for the audience to discern one personality from the next.

In its entirety, the play asks the audience to look inside itself to ask what toleration is, for there is a fine line between toleration and acceptance. The play depicts the growth of a town, going from a firm 'live and let live' stance to a community reaching out to all its members

and the surrounding world.

Director Katie Hughes '06, did a phenomenal job. *The Laramie Project*, though serious in its subject matter, often draws on the nuances of life in Wyoming, poking fun at some of the ignorances, lightening the mood at times. Hughes and her talented actors take hold of this emotion, not allowing the audience to sink into the seats lamenting over hate. Rather, they laugh and cry right along with the characters—and laughing in the face of hatred is not something easily done.

It is the compilation of talented acting, superb direction, and appropriate set design that makes this play what it is. Hughes' character placement exemplifies the initial message—each stern expression, handling of the props, smile, or movement of the hand, seems to lend significance to the play.

To pick out a few standout members of the cast would be unfair. Lauren Annicelli '09, Sarah Bedard '09, Elizabeth Clark '06, Alisa D'Amore '07, Caitlin E. Doyle '07, Brett Epstein '09, Stephan Mirando '09, and Emily Smith '07 each give heartfelt performances on their own, but as a cast they are astounding; it is a truly talented cast that can shine both together and apart. Each student has a standout character, like Smith's portrayal of an e-mail writer, Annicelli's moments as Aaron McKinney, and Epstein's Doc O'Conner. But, it is in one of the final scenes, when the religious fundamentalists protest the funeral of Shepard, that the cast unites and shines brilliantly as a whole.

*The Laramie Project* is both tragic and touching, a story that everyone, gay or straight, should experience.

**GRADE: A**



# Post-ironic arena rock

## *Wilco and Ted Leo rock a sold-out arena at Brown University*

BY JOE MCCORMACK '07  
A&E STAFF

On Thursday, April 20, two voices that have helped shape indie rock in the new millennium came to Providence to play at Brown University's Meehan Auditorium. People old and young came from Brown, RISD, PC, and all over the Providence area and beyond to see Wilco and Ted Leo & The Pharmacists play in the sold-out arena. They were treated to a blistering 40-minute set by Ted Leo, followed by a masterful two-hour performance by Wilco.

### CONCERT REVIEW

After a set by OK Go, during which I sat in the Will-Call line outside the auditorium, Ted Leo & The Pharmacists went on stage, set up their own equipment with little help, and ripped into a set of material culled mostly from their 2004 LP *Shake the Sheets*, though peppered with new songs and tracks also from *Hearts of Oak* (2002) and *Tyranny of Distance* (2001).

The band is equal parts Dylan, Elvis Costello, and ZZ Top, with classic rock and second-wave punk colliding head on with a Celtic folk impulse and a political flare. Leo has long been known as the gunslinger of indie rock for his guitar heroics, but his lyrical style slings words with even more force and flair. It is his intelligent and soulful lyrics that have made him a spokesman and a leader among his fans and peers.

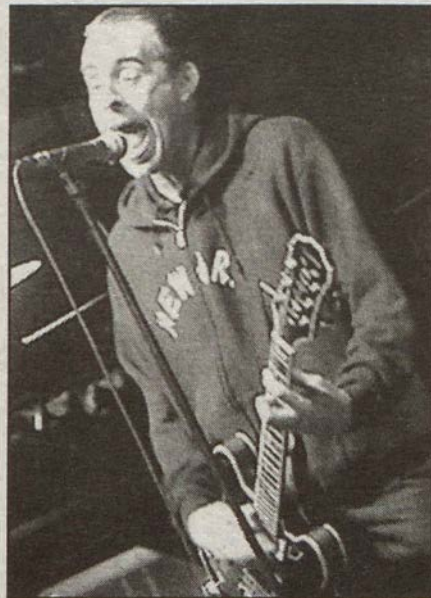
Perhaps his greatest lyrical achievement is "Timorous Me," off *Tyranny of Distance*, a song that he announced was written about someone who lived in Providence. Leo tells stories over riffs that could excite even the biggest Thin Lizzy fan: "Apparently he was my very



NONESUCH

best friend/we spent warm summer days wishing they would never end/but I only know from photographs I look at, every now and again." Leo later said to the crowd, "I didn't go to school here, but my brother went to RISD... and my father went to PC." Pretty cool.

*Shake the Sheets* continues Leo's track as storyteller and voice of the people, birthing such masterpieces as "Me and Mia"—a complex study of anorexia—and "Counting Down the Hours," a soldier's grim musings on death. With the flavor of an irreverent Celtic folk song, Leo sings "In a sense it don't come easy/in a sense it never will... Oh, wondering if I have a soul/counting down the hours till it goes." The new material blistered in the live setting, more so than on the record, with "Little Dawn" and "The One Who Got Us Out" notably joining the two previously mentioned as highlights in the set.



LOOKOUT RECORDS

If Ted Leo is the indie scene's premier activist/storyteller, Jeff Tweedy of Wilco is its premier lyric poet, breathing life into simple words and throwing images of beauty against walls of sound. While Leo loaded and unloaded his own amp and used one guitar, the same one he's always used, the two guitarists of Wilco were handed a new guitar after practically every song.

While Leo and company were brash and uncompromisingly sloppy at times, Wilco was a well-oiled machine, churning out song after song of its brand of Floyd-styled folk with enough grace and power to justify all the good press it's gotten throughout its long career.

As the band played songs from their two latest albums, *A Ghost is Born* (2004) and *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (2002), there would be times in which the sheer sonic weight of the six musicians and the tons of reverb and noise effects seemed

to threaten to explode on the stage. Every time the tension got as thick as it could be before the fabric of the band came undone, such as on "Spiders," "Hell is Chrome," and "I Am Trying to Break Your Heart," they would push it even further, and then recover and resume the graceful folk and classical rock that Tweedy has built his career on.

The lyrical highlights of Wilco's set were "Hummingbird" and "Jesus, etc." The former is a traveler's tale of exile, featuring the lines, "So he slept, on a mountain/with a sleeping bag underneath the stars he would lie awake and count them." The latter is an eerily prophetic ballad written early in 2001 featuring the lines, "Tall buildings shake, voices escape singing sad, sad songs... Skyscrapers are scraping together/Your voice is smoking."

The sonic highlight of Wilco's set was the self-proclaimed "Arena Rock set" in the second encore. Along with some oldies from 1996's *Being There*, the paint-peeling "Misunderstood" and the Schoolboy anthem, "Monday," Tweedy and friends ended strong with "Heavy Metal Drummer," "I'm a Wheel," and the beautifully quirky and powerful "I'm the Man Who Loves You." On the latter and on the closer, "Monday," three Brown University Students joined Wilco, making up a brass section of trumpet, trombone, and sax. The crowd roared in approval as the three flawlessly reproduced the stirring instrumentation of the original recordings.

The term "college-town" is an exciting one due to nights like this. Brown was able to fill a huge arena with its own students, our students, other students, and music fans from all over the area for a night of culturally relevant and beautifully executed music. Amen.



### Project REWARDS

*Reinforcing Effective Ways to Reduce Daily Smoking*

You can earn **cash REWARDS** for cutting down your cigarette smoking!

You may be eligible to participate in a research study if you are:

- a current daily smoker
- between the ages of 18 - 24
- enrolled in college

- Earn **\$75 in cash** at your first appointment!
- Earn between **\$210 & \$523 in cash** by providing us with daily CO readings!
- Earn up to **\$175 in cash** for follow-up appointments!

For more information, please contact Polly at 444-1814 or



Do you still swing around a lightsaber when no one is looking?

Is IMDb.com the homepage for your Internet?

Do you make collages from old *Entertainment Weekly* magazines?

Then you are an A&E dork and should apply to write for *The Cowl's* A&E section. Come pick up an application in Slavin G05.



# Enemy of the state

24's Kiefer Sutherland and Michael Douglas star in the political thriller *The Sentinel*, an action thriller with a shot of conspiracy

BY KATIE LEVINE '07  
ASST. A&E EDITOR

The Secret Service really knows how to work those sunglasses. Whether its members are inside, outside, or just chasing down the bad guys—those sunglasses are always put to good use. Fortunately, this rule of thumb serves to keep the cast of *The Sentinel* as chic as possible while they are chasing down all those two-faced Secret Service agents and presidential assassins.

## MOVIE REVIEW

*The Sentinel* manages to blend in to the "political conspiracy-theory action" genre of film with little effort. Put *In the Line of Fire*, *The Fugitive*, and *Enemy of the State* into a blender and out comes *The Sentinel*. Although not great, this film manages to deliver good thrills, compelling acting, and a decent plot (as long as you don't question it too much).

Michael Douglas plays Pete Garrison, an experienced and dedicated Secret Service agent, ironically having an affair with First Lady Sarah Ballentine (Kim Basinger). But when a plot to assassinate the president, abetted by an unknown mole in the Secret Service, is uncovered, Garrison comes under suspicion.

As Agent David Breckenridge (Kiefer Sutherland) and rookie Agent Jill Marin (Eva Longoria) lead a team to investigate the mole and prevent the assassination, they discover evidence that frames Agent Garrison as the mole. Knowing his innocence, Garrison manages to escape from custody and lead a MacGyver-like operation to clear his own name and

still save the president's life.

Directed by Clark Johnson and based on the novel by Gerald Petievich, *The Sentinel* is a fun, thrilling political drama. Whether exaggerated for the big screen or not, I found it incredibly interesting to see what difficulties the Secret Service faces when protecting the president. However, the plot can turn superficial at times. The film makes a big deal about how closely monitored the First Family is, yet somehow Garrison manages to escape the detection long enough to have an ongoing affair with the First Lady without anyone even noticing.

Furthermore, the so-called "bad guys" are extremely underdeveloped. Sometimes what makes a great movie is the clash between the overwhelming goodness of the hero and the evilness of the bad guys. But in this film, the bad guys are weak characters, with absolutely no known motivation for trying to kill the president. You would think that you have to have a pretty good reason for wanting the President dead before you try going after him; but I guess we are just supposed to make the assumption that these guys do.

Despite these minor inconsistencies, the film is enjoyable. There were some intense shoot-outs and action scenes that had me ready to jump out of my seat. I was cheering for Douglas as he used his sharply honed Secret Service skills to elude the investigators, scale buildings, and get to the bottom of the assassination plot. It seems that a Secret Service agent is the person who knows best how to elude the detection of the Secret Service.

Douglas is great as the wrongly ac-



High Tension: Tempers flare as Michael Douglas and Kiefer Sutherland clash over top-secret business in the political thriller, *The Sentinel*.

cused fugitive, and ends up having strong chemistry with Sutherland, who in turn has incredible chemistry with Longoria. She was surprisingly good in this film and manages to escape the stigma of *Desperate Housewives*. Sutherland breaks out the Jack Bauer moves several times in the movie: he knows everything and uses that gruff Bauer bark to always get his way. But although you can see the Bauer in him, it isn't overwhelming, and his role is believable. He must have felt pretty comfortable on set though because everyone in this movie uses a PDA, just like Jack Bauer.

Contrary to what the previews might make you believe, Douglas is the star of this film, and Sutherland and Longoria have sadly small parts. I don't want to belittle Douglas' skills, but I wish we could have seen a little more of the sur-

prisingly convincing rookie-mentor relationship between the two supporting actors.

As in all thrillers, the mystery is solved at the most crucial point of the film, where the characters are still in danger but have just enough time to escape with their lives. The culminating scene will make your head spin, with every bad thing possible happening in about three minutes.

Nevertheless, *The Sentinel* is a wildly fun and enjoyable film. All of the objections to it in this review came as an afterthought—the actual experience of viewing the movie was 100 percent enjoyable. If you don't like it, at least you will have learned by the end how to make good use of your sunglasses.

GRADE: B+

# Losing the American dream

BY DEANNA CIOPPA '07  
A&E STAFF

The road to Hell. You know the cliché. Thanks to *American Dreamz*, the latest parody flick to emerge from the oh-so-geo-politically aware Hollywood, audiences all over the country now have a handy visual aid to which they can refer to for said maxim. The unfortunate thing about this movie—besides most of its dialogue, its contrived plot, sub-par acting, and Chris Klein—is that it could have been so much better. As such, my indignation knows no bounds.

## MOVIE REVIEW

*American Dreamz* takes a line from the *American Idol* craze (tres obvious, no?) and centers around a talent competition designed to weed out America's next superstar. Host and America's next top Brit Martin Tweed (Hugh Grant) selects each contestant beforehand in order to garner the most viewers. Hence, we find gracing the stage Omer (Sam Golzari), an Arab lover of song and dance (and a secret member of a terrorist cell in Orange County); Sholem Glickstein, one bad rabbi; Sally Kendoo, America's down-home, white-trash sweetheart with claws (Mandy Moore), and her devoted boyfriend/war veteran William Williams (Klein).

As the competition progresses, Omer must decide whether he can give up his dream of performing and martyr himself for his terrorist brothers' holy cause when he meets the President of the United States (Dennis Quaid) who will be guest-judging "American Dreamz." I kid you



UNIVERSAL

not.

Meanwhile, the dippy President (Dennis Quaid) begins a soul-searching journey of book-learnin' and deep thinkin' and, in spite of the manipulations of his conniving puppet-master/vice president (Willem Dafoe), begins to trust his own judgment. Have I lost you yet? I shouldn't have, because you've heard this all before, haven't you? I assure you, the ending is about as satisfying as a Band-Aid on a gaping, gangrenous wound. At the last minute, script-writer Paul Weitz makes a desperate and far-flung effort to turn this ridiculous parody into some sort of dark comedy. It does not fly.

My fellow viewers-in-arms, we live during a time of parody in cinema and T.V. Films like *Scary Movies I-IV*, *Date Movie*, and *Not Another Teen Movie*, and sketch T.V. like *Saturday Night Live*, have all taken the art of satire to new lows. And yet, they are effective because they are so over the top in their parody.

What makes those sorts of movies entertaining is that in hyperbolizing what is grotesque or silly or self-indulgent in "real" cinema, they perhaps touch on issues we did not even know we had noticed about movies.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, the "mockumentaries" of Christopher Guest (*Waiting for Guffman*, *This is Spinal Tap*, *A Mighty Wind*) use nuance and subtlety to parody everyday life. *American Dreamz* falls just short of the exaggeration and silliness of the *Scary Movie* tradition and comes nowhere close to the understated brilliance of Guest's work. Casting A-listers like Quaid and Grant in a parody film like this one just proves that the filmmakers were taking themselves too seriously when trying to be humorous. We look for B or C-listers at the most in these movies. Quaid and Grant are too good for these roles. They play them too well, and thus we lose much of the humor. Convoluted, I know. Then again, so is the film.

This might be made up for with good dialogue. After all, parody is a great opportunity for choice one-liners. Unfortunately, the subjects in this film are so old that it's hard to muster up the laughs; the humor in this one is very, very tired, and seems more like the left-overs from Will Ferrell's days on SNL.

I admit that a spoof on *American Idol* was a moderately interesting move for a studio, but with so much media attention on this series already, this becomes one more beating for the poor, dead horse. And, call me square, but the idea of a terrorist cell orchestrating their doomsday blow in a Hollywood talent competition, and the subsequent absorption and destruction of all that the tenets of Islam hold sacred in the warm fuzzy glow of T.V. seems to be in extremely poor taste. Jack Bauer would be rolling in his grave. If he could die. Which we know he can't.

If I were to give one redeeming quality for this bizarre little blip on the cinematic radar screen, it would not be in any of the principals' performances. My award goes to Tony Yalda, who plays Iqbal, Omar's American cousin and "American Dreamz" hopeful. Yalda is hands-down the funniest part of this movie. Embittered, sarcastic, flamboyant, spoiled rotten, and hopelessly talented, Iqbal is the reason we watch shows like *American Idol*.

He's the one who refuses to acknowledge his abominable lack of talent in the face of opposition, and for that, I salute him. I just wish the rest of his cast-mates would acknowledge their shortcomings.

GRADE: C+



## Searching for plane rides in the sky

BY KATIE HUGHES '06  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

In two chaise lounges in the backyard of a house in East Providence, there sit a man and a woman, married. They have two children, each nestled with them on the chairs between their legs. The man smokes his cigar, using his daughter's head as a lectern for his Russian spy novel, while the woman sips her vodka tonic humming a song from *Mary Poppins* into her son's ear. There are two afghans covering the family from the cool summer wind, shielding them from pesky biting bugs.

When twilight breaks and the man can no longer read his book, the family's focus turns to the sky. A contest begins, a search of the first star. The son thinks he's spotted one, but the chatty younger sister states that the star the boy was pointing to was blinking and moving, hence being an airplane. As the boy curses the congested air traffic pattern by their home, the woman laughs. And soon the whole family is laughing, forgetting about the airplane, the star contest, and anything else for that matter.

The girl sees a star and points. Her father, trying to see from the same perspective as his daughter, cranes his neck to where hers is, holds his arm parallel to hers, and finds the sparkling star. In grand tradition of the man's know-it-all nature, he states that what they are staring at is actually the planet Mars.

Like clockwork, thousands upon thousands of stars appear before the family. The children begin to count the stars they can see. The woman returns to her humming and the man begins to tell the family about Russian espionage.

The girl sees another plane and begins her favorite game. She likes to imagine where the plane is going, and pretends she is a passenger, as if she could switch places for a while. She never tells the family about her game, afraid that her brother would tease her and that her parents would not understand. By keeping it a secret, the pastime becomes slightly sacred, a secret she shares with her maker.

She grew up looking at the stars. When she was 12, she bundled up in her snowsuit, and at 3:00 a.m. in the dead of winter, she ventured outside to the very same chaise lounge she used to share with her father. She wanted to watch a meteor shower. The girl did not tell anyone, but her mother knew. She always knew. She watched her daughter traipse outside in a foot of snow and push it off the chaise lounge. The woman did not call to the girl but let her watch the meteor shower in awe.

The family is older, now perhaps wiser, perhaps not, and they no longer sit four people to two chaise lounges. In fact, they are rarely all in the same place at the same time. But they still see the stars. The man still reads his Russian spy novels and the woman still hums. The boy, now a man himself, finds the first star in the sky, moving or otherwise. And the girl? Well, she sits on a porch of a house that's not home, covered by an afghan all her own. The planes seem to find her.

## The way of the cross on Good Friday

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Are you coming?"

It was a question I didn't have the luxury of taking my own sweet time to answer.

ESSAY |

"Well, are you?" I looked at my father, who was standing next to me. Did we really want to go? We weren't sure. But my brother, sister, and mother had already run ahead. "Yes," I said. "We're coming."

The police officer looked at me incredulously, as he single-handedly held up traffic that Friday afternoon in lower Manhattan.

"Well, if you're coming, hurry up!" he cried, as cars horns started honking.

I ran into the street, my father following close behind, as we quickened our pace to catch up with the rest of our family, leaving the Episcopal Trinity Church and its fame behind us.

We're Roman Catholic, not Episcopalian, I remember thinking, wishing to take refuge in the safety of tradition, as we approached the historic church and noticed a Good Friday service was just beginning. I had been to Good Friday services in my hometown, had reenacted the Stations of the Cross when I was in middle school, had been to various Protestant and, Baptist churches, and even nondenominational services on the mountains and on beaches in nontraditional settings while on vacation—but as we walked along and finally caught up with the rest of my family, I somehow knew this Good Friday service would be a little bit more than simply "nontraditional."

I've been told by a number of preachers and good Christians that we've all got our crosses to bear. I just always considered that saying to be something of a metaphor—I never took it literally.

But this past Good Friday, as my family and I took the train into lower Manhattan from the Jersey shore to do a bit of shopping and sight seeing over my Easter break, I walked "the way of the cross" and began to understand for the first time maybe what that cross actually stood for.

You see, the police officer was holding up traffic so that a small group of reverends and ministers, along with a gathering of men and women dressed in business suits, could cross the street and walk down to Bowling Green Park—led by two parishioners carrying a roughly 10-foot solid wood cross. Part of me couldn't believe that this was actually happening in modern-day New York City.

As my father and I caught up with the group, a woman handed us a pamphlet that told us there would be six stops along the walk called "The Way of the Cross," with short guided prayers said at each site.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KRISTINA REARDON '08/The Cowl

We walked, and the light rain that had begun to fall that morning kept on coming down. I pulled my sweatshirt hood over my head and felt a little out of place amidst the group of well-dressed worshippers—in my jeans, sneakers, and bright pink Providence College sweatshirt, I certainly wasn't in my "Sunday best."

I needn't have worried about my attire. That's not what Good Friday, or walking the way of the cross, was really about. As the small group of us traveled along the streets, people on the sidewalks and driving down the street looked at the large cross on the shoulders of the two men leading the group and did a double take. Some business women walking back to their offices, maybe after lunch, joined the group. A homeless man gave up his post on the side of the street to follow along, offering to read one of the prayers. By the time we had passed the John Heuss House—a homeless shelter and the second stop on our journey—and reached the New York Stock Exchange off Wall Street, we were an eclectic group of 30, with the police officer on motorcycle, clearing the streets of cars as we walked across.

As the cross bearers held up the cross on the sidewalk, a member of the group began reading a passage from Matthew, and one of the organizers of the event approached my 11-year-old brother.

"Would you like to carry the cross?" he asked him.

With a child's eagerness and naiveté, he said yes. After the prayer was over, an adult lifted the cross onto his shoulders. My sister left the crowd and picked up the back end that he couldn't shoulder as the group embarked on the longest stretch of the walk, from the Stock Exchange to Ground Zero.

They walked on the sidewalks as the rain kept falling down, aptly setting the scene. Photographers from various media venues snapped photographs of the

young boy in a Yankees windbreaker as he led the group and for 10 minutes or so that day, literally bore his cross.

There was shock in seeing the vast nothingness that once was the site of the Twin Towers that I remembered so well from earlier trips to New York City. Where my sister and I had once stood nearly 10 years ago with our small hands pressed against the large glass panes on the observation level of one of the towers, there was only sky. I had never been to see the destruction prior to that day. I was a sophomore in high school back in 2001, but now as a sophomore in college, roughly four years later, my view of the city was slightly altered.

A homeless man was playing a flute near the site, but the whistling notes did not drown out the noise of the traffic in the background or the sounds of men and women in hardhats still working to clear the site and construct the planned memorial in its place.

But above all those noises, if you were standing close enough, you could hear the words of Isaiah, as my brother and sister steadied the cross by the tall fences into the site: "For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. . . No more shall there be an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime. . ."

We walked to Saint Paul's Chapel after that, just across the street, where there are still boards with photos of missing persons left hanging since the days after Sept. 11, 2001. Then we walked back to the Trinity Church and ended with a simple prayer that transcends all divisions of Christianity: the Our Father.

There were people who looked at us twice when we walked by with that cross that day. There were people who shook their heads in disbelief, as I first did when I saw the group set off. There were people who tried to ignore it and others who loudly mocked the service and the situation. There were others who tried to pretend they didn't see it.

But, for maybe the first time that day, the seminal message of the faith I claim as my own rang clear and true to my ears. It wasn't about what I was wearing, or who saw me or didn't see me walking on the streets with that 10-foot cross. It wasn't about making sure I checked "go to Mass on Good Friday" off my To-Do list, or even if I prayed with fellow Catholics or Christians from other denominations.

What was important was that police officer's question, as he held traffic for a moment longer while I lingered on the sidewalk, apprehensive of such an outward display of religion and belief.

What mattered was my answer to his question: "Are you coming?"





# Student Poetry & Fiction Contest



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN OWENS '07/The Cowl  
Dr. Peter Johnson, Professor of English and coordinator of the contest, invited students to come forward and read selections of their work.

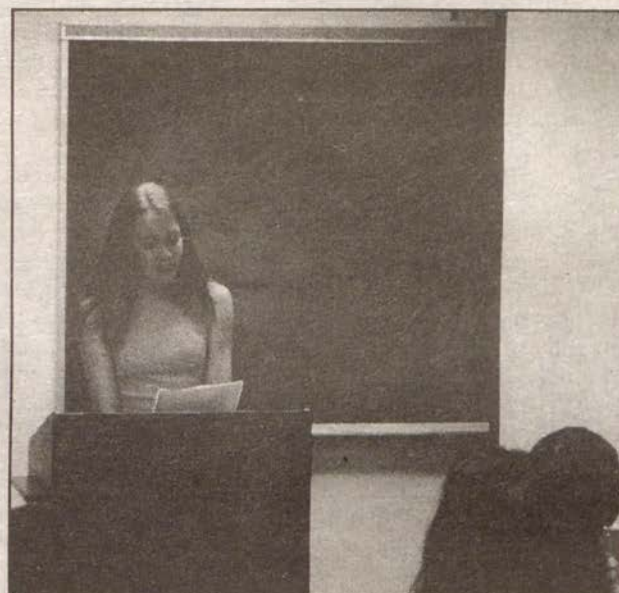
On Thursday, April 20, The Department of English at Providence College sponsored its annual Student Poetry & Fiction Contest. PC students who submitted pieces to be judged shared their original verse poetry, prose poems, and short fiction pieces with a gathering of 40 students and faculty.

Some of the winning entries are printed below. A complete list of winners is provided at the bottom of the page.

## Visiting hours

BY EMILY REYNOLDS '06  
SECOND RUNNER UP, PROSE POEM

When we went to see you in that room, you didn't say a word. Pretty rude, I thought, but shut my mouth, sat stiff, fake-smiling, pretty glad I tanked six beers on the train ride down. As we stared at the bright TV, I thought about tubes and wires, tugging them as you softly spiked and flatlined. I didn't come too close, praying that no one would mention the booze on my breath, hoping even harder that you'd forget my awkwardness if I fed you soggy spinach or half-melted jello with a thin plastic spoon. I left the smell of flowers and not enough air, covering your skinny ankles with a blanket because I was sorry.



Caitlin Murphy '06 reads her prose poem *Industrial Side Step* to a captivated audience last Thursday night.

## A contract (for the destruction and rebuilding of New Orleans) Modeled after Baraka

BY MONIQUE D. TEVES '07  
WINNER, VERSE POETRY

Flesh, and cars, tar, dig holes  
in the middle of houses  
and across street signs and blocks,  
(the Ward is fully sunk,  
shipwrecked matchsticks—don't  
you know the poor man can swim,  
besides, he ain't so *elevated* himself neither).

They let the mud come to *cleanse*,  
an exodus for the chosen  
displaced. Part the water lines to rise  
and settle like the *insurance* cheek people  
down in tents on bare foundations  
with steps that lead to  
nowhere.

In the Parish cab, Boogey-with-no-teeth says,  
*The Hondurans have inhabited us*  
*just to make gangs* and points out X  
marks the spot with 2 dead in the attic.

*They are no brothers*, he says, he smokes and tips  
his AMERICA cap as we drive through Arabi  
away from the city or white ghost thereof.

Everyone's small talk is religion and you  
ask me if I am a Christian.

## ROW

BY SHANNON GUSY '06  
WINNER, PROSE POETRY

Row. I will row towards it. Leap without thinking. My soul will drown in it. Walk over it. Push through it; my oars will not hesitate in the storm. With first current, monsoons of courage pulsing within. Lifting scooping tides with arm breaths of bravery. Wooden sticks of art, knowing love's lack of intelligence. But I keep rowing. My boat into choppy waters pointing westward, the unknown currents of beauty guiding deeper—into the sea of my pages. Lift each one. Follow every line. Fall with all you are made of. There is life without love. Turn the soul-spinning wheel. With boats coming in, honking, speeding. The sailors yelling, "My dear, you are so young!" The water swirling. "You are too small for this storm!" Feel the unmistakable pounding. But do not take away my oars. The ink of my soul, plunging pen on rough paper. I'll write each ocean like a sea bird. My heart steaming, sky blowing. But I will not turnaround.

## The bottoms of my feet

BY LIA ARMATAS '08  
FIRST RUNNER UP, VERSE POETRY

I'll orchestrate for you, this swirling I've experienced in my tub.  
The heat and humidity mustered up this cloud in my brain.  
And my hand splashed the future onto paned glass that I rubbed

Translucent dotted black trickle down in a crackle of firework tails  
Long squid manage to smile in my train of thought, trails

There presented before this oracle, my feet  
The tops soft that led to my legs long and bright from the red steamed heat  
Underneath  
Cold clean ceramic on my heels  
The past lay on this bed of ivory steel.

### PROSE POETRY

Row Shannon Gusy '06  
*Industrial Side Step* Caitlin Murphy '06  
*Visiting Hours* Emily Reynolds '06

### FICTION

*Drops* Megan Bishop '07  
*A True Passion* Alison Espach '07  
*If it is a Thing at All* Matthew Campion '07

### VERSE POETRY

*A Contract* Monique Teves '07  
*The Bottoms of My Feet* Lia Armatas '08  
*To Be New* Alison Espach '07



# To pop or not to pop: Not just a fashion statement

BY JENNIFER McCafferty '07  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

I'm not what you might call "fashionably inclined." I admit this. My roommates have stopped asking me if their outfits look good because they know that there's always a chance I'll let them walk out the door to some important interview wearing acid-washed jeans and a tube top accented with a faux fur scarf (assuming they actually own such items).

## ESSAY

However, there is one fashion trend that I know for a fact is simply wrong. I am, of course, referring to the infamous popped collar. Now, I'm not trying to be counter-cultural or "anti-the cool kids" by saying that popped collars are bad. The fact is, there is a contingent of anti-popped collar people just as large as the pro-popped collar crowd, so to say that I am against popped collars isn't really counter-cultural. It's just counter-a-particular-culture. Besides, even some of the "cool kids" recognize the perils of life with their collars popped. And they would know better than anyone, wouldn't they?

The primary threat posed by collar popping is that of physical harm. People go to ridiculous lengths to pop their collars at just the perfect angle and to prevent the embarrassing side effect known as "collar sagginess." The stigma against the "Saggies," as they are sometimes called, is so great that potential Saggies, in the attempt to avoid such a namesake, are willing to put their lives at risk.

Throughout my extensive studies of the popped collar phenomenon, I have met many poor souls injured during the quest for the perfect popped collar. One of these was a young man I will call Johnny (for the sake of confidentiality). Now, Johnny no longer believes in popping collars, but he was once a strict adherent to the popped collar philosophy and would literally spend hours every night ironing the collars on his shirts, using an average of three cans of spray starch to ensure a durable collar that would be able to withstand the forces of gravity, wind, hair, and just about anything else you could throw at it. As we discussed his former life over coffee, I was surprised to watch as Johnny's emotions gradually got the better of him as he recalled the incident that changed his way of life forever.

"I was wearing this peach polo shirt from Banana Republic," he told me, his voice somewhat strained by the memory. "It was perfectly popped at an angle somewhere between 86 and 87 degrees, and I was totally rockin' it. I was walking to class one day when someone behind me called my name. I turned my head to see who it was, and," tears welled up in his eyes as he cried, "My collar was so stiff from all the starch that the edge of it cut the bottom of my chin. Oh, God, I bled all over the shirt! And it wasn't even mine! It was my brother's!"

Johnny's story also raises the issue of the psychological trauma that the popped collar phenomenon has caused. While he was recovering from his injury, he could not pop his collar because the

collar would scrape the band-aids off his chin and re-open the wound. Subsequently, Johnny found himself being labeled a Saggy and discovered, for the first time, the darker, more sinister side of the culture of collar-poppers. He felt an ever-widening breach between himself and his friends and made it clear to me that he blamed his collar.

"You have to understand," he said, "that some people don't see it as just a collar. The collar represents an entire way of life. When they pop their collars, they see the world differently—and they see people differently, too. When I stopped popping my collar, my friends thought I was rejecting them and everything they stood for. I really just didn't want to bleed all over another shirt. It didn't matter to them, though. I was a Saggy, and that was that."

Throughout the course of my research, I have encountered countless people who have had experiences similar to Johnny's. Most of them have discontinued popping their collars, but there are a few who valiantly forge ahead in the practice, despite the potential dire consequences. Some of them, especially those coping with accusations of collar sagginess, have tried to take a stand by wearing their collars half-popped, choosing to live in neither the realm of popped collars nor that of non-popped collars. Still others have stopped wearing col-

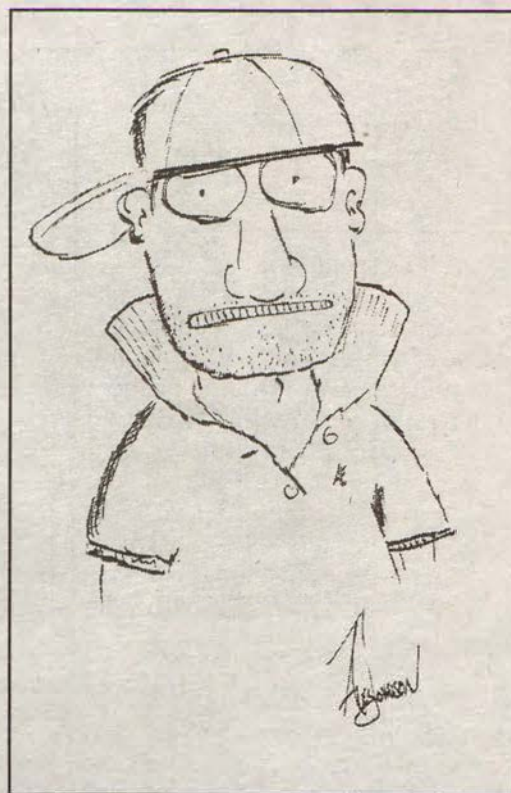


ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX JOHNSON '07/The Cowl

lared shirts altogether.

As for myself, I stand today with my collar unpopped. I suppose you could call it a fashion statement, but my severe lack of visual artistic inclination leads me to believe it is something deeper than that. So, let us not forget the lessons of young Johnny and the thousands like him—keep your collar down and hold your head high.

## So I started wearing headbands

BY DAN MEEHAN '07  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

So I started wearing headbands and running around in circles, staying fit, listening to the talking heads all day on the radio, it felt poetically American.

Small pallet, large, strong valet splatter along like Pollock paint. Insane short straw pull, pushed to the front wall, marked down, kept around hung to dry.

Among us, valiant young souls, pale fire guns empty as smoke, fat cigars burn like stars, litter the sky with holes.

I just wanna make you proud, man.

## And in many mercies does dream inflame

BY KYLE VEALEY '09  
PORTFOLIO STAFF

There is more cause for causal concern of how an exact, Surprising flower touches anything of might and hasn't discovered laughter.

But as exceedingly more, the reason of light presses firm the half pale star of how last evils came, and how last evils stayed.

Constrained by world face of "behold joy now," it is where far off you stored, to which I fell beheld, To innumerable pleas of own why not, as much as yes.

And in many mercies does dream inflame, the highest of wayward fancy light, and in seizing does cast moist moons, half cluttered, to rank sad drops.

At last by considerable light does longing ensue, given off, into enticing fruit, two might one think that this mark of day would cease idle dreaming.

But as by constant and how lovenight, dreaming lives as much by tulips as you (wonderful and suddenly) by sweeter, by sweet.

*A poet dares be just so clear and no clearer . . . He unzips the veil from beauty, but does not remove it. A poet utterly clear is a trifle glaring.*  
—E. B. White

P  
O  
E  
t  
r  
y  
C  
O  
R  
n  
e  
r





Dearest Desperate,

No one likes smokers. Well, unless you actually are a smoker, because if you're not, you generally want to stay away from their toxic exhales. If you really don't like smokers, why would you ever want to kiss one? Now, I've made out with plenty in my lifetime, but I've never had the opportunity to have that nicotine kiss—thankfully. So, I can't really say that mints or mouthwash would appease your aversions. For once, though, I do think Earl has a point. Dry spell or not, give up the hooking up for now. There's only a few weeks left, so go out and have fun with your friends. If your only method of having fun is hooking up, well then that's another problem in itself, and we're always looking for new problems to analyze...

Tiffany

## She Said, He Said

Making PC an emotionally stable place,  
one letter at a time...

This Week...  
are you addicted to love?

Dear Tiff and Earl,

I've been having what you'd call a "dry spell" lately. Usually, guys like me a lot, but recently there's been little interest—except for this guy that lives on my floor. He's been instant messaging me and writing on my Facebook wall. He's cute, we've been friends for a while, and I think we'd have a really good time together. But, the problem is that he smokes. And it's not the occasional cigarette with a beer outside of Louie's—it's a consistent thing. I really can't stand smokers, but because I've been having this dry spell, I really can't see any other reason why I shouldn't. What should I do?

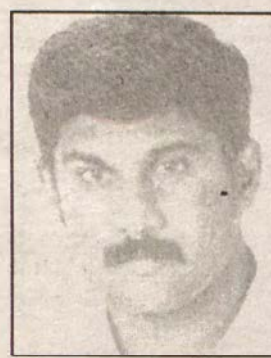
—Desperate in DiTrag

Don't force us to make these letters up.

Write to Tiffany & Earl!

Send your e-mails to:

AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com

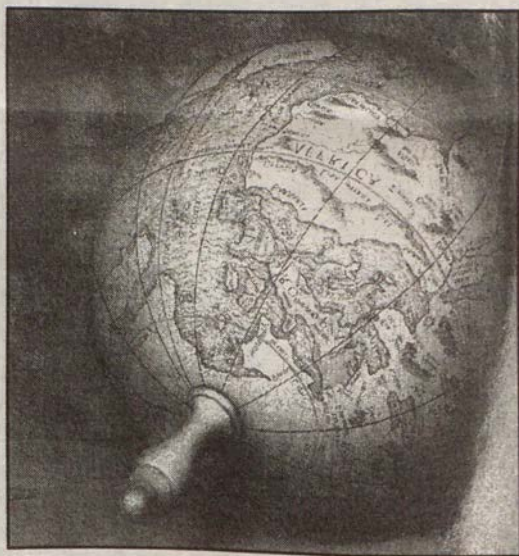


Dear Desperate,

Dammit! It's the end of the year. Why do you care? Are you really that desperate to hook up with someone? So desperate that you would do so with two weeks left in the semester? If you are, then I am sure you really don't care about a lasting relationship, and therefore can tolerate the smoking for that one crazy night you have to put up with it. Now please let me get back to my work. I have four projects due in the upcoming week, a test in Taxes, three quizzes, and an Anthropology paper. Don't you people ever think about someone other than yourself—something other than hooking up? GOSH! Sorry, I am under a lot of stress. ADVICE: Take up smoking because it just makes everyone more desirable, and with that I am sure that the "dry spell" will end. Vaya con Dios.

EARL

## Going Abroad Next Year?

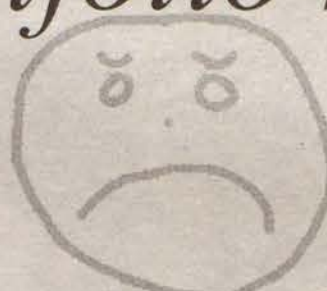


**Well, then we want YOU.**

The Portfolio section of *The Cowl* is looking for students who are going abroad for the Fall '06 or the Spring '07 semester to write about their experiences. Take the opportunity to get published in your homeland while studying abroad!

Interested students should send an e-mail to **PortfolioPC@yahoo.com**. Be sure to attach a writing sample of any kind.

## Join the Portfolio Staff!



Portfolio is sad.

We like when members of our staff are successful and graduate.

But that means we have to find fabulous people to replace them.

If you write short stories, personal essays, poetry, or would like to illustrate, come to *The Cowl* office, Slavin G05, to pick up an application!

### Attorney Robert B. Mann Criminal Law

All Felonies & Misdemeanors  
DWI & Domestic Violence  
Drug Offenses

610 Turks Head Place, Providence, RI  
(401)351-5770 24 Hours (401) 965-3239  
www.lawyers.com/mannlaw



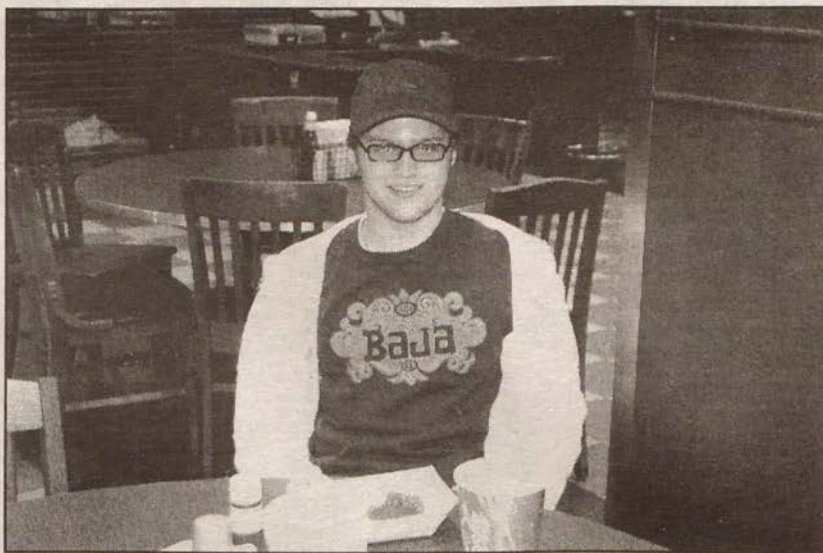
“Oops, there goes  
this week’s *Cowl*...”



good thing we  
have a web site  
[www.thecowl.com](http://www.thecowl.com)



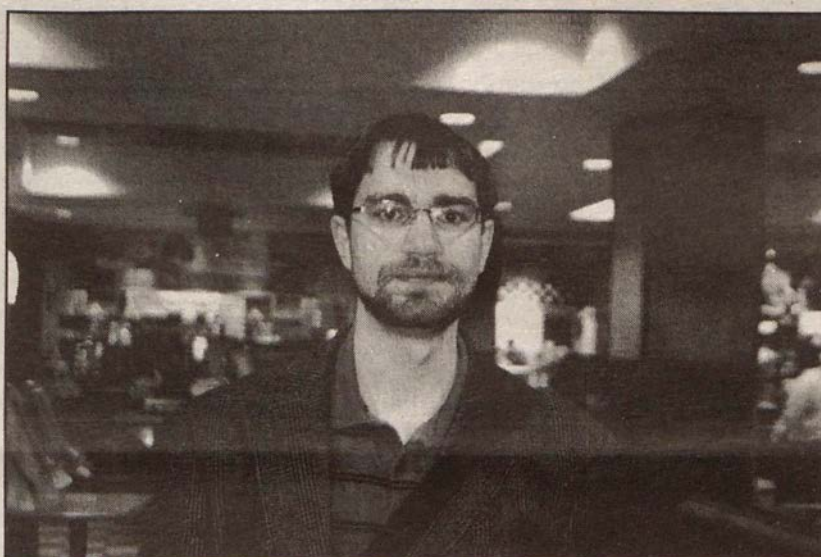
# *If you had an evil boss, how would you get back at him?*



"Poison his food."  
Ben Robbins '09



"Put burrs on his chair."  
Kathy Batchlar '06



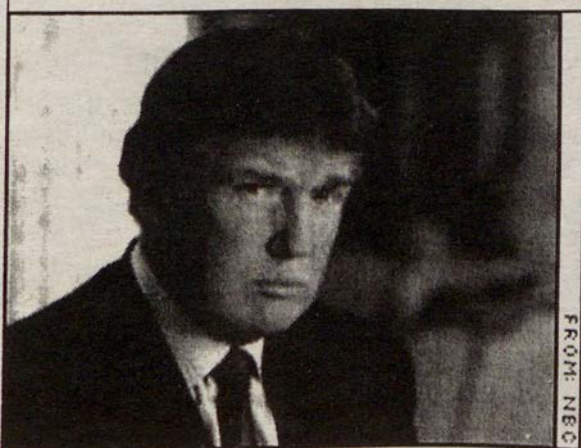
"Reverse the M and N keys on his keyboard."  
Matthew Spidel '07



"I would kill that capitalistic pig-dog."  
Erik Andersen '06



"I wouldn't do anything. It's unethical."  
Matt Kraft '09



## The Donald

"I'd just say, 'You're FIRED!'"



# Friars Scoreboard

Scores --- Standings --- Statistics --- Schedules --- Standouts

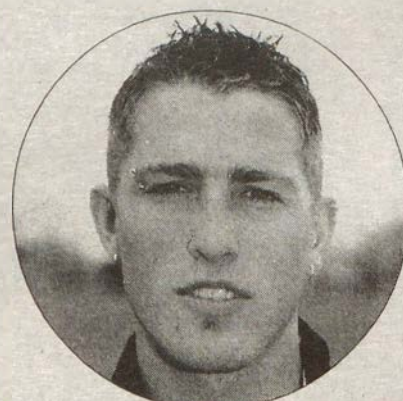
## Standouts



**Rachel Bartholomew**

Softball

Junior—Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.  
Bartholomew was named the Big East Player of the Week after leading the Friars to a 3-1 mark in conference play over the weekend. She hit .579 with six home runs and 11 RBIs.



**Martin Fagan**

Men's Track

Senior—Mullingar, Ireland  
Fagan managed to qualify for the Big East Championship after running a 3:49.31 1,500 meters at the UConn Invitational on Saturday, April 22—good enough to win the event.

## Scores

<i>Friday 4/21</i>		
Tennis vs. Fairfield		L, 4-3
<i>Saturday 4/22</i>		
Softball vs. St. John's		L, 2-1
Softball vs. St. John's		W, 3-1
Men's Lacrosse at Quinnipiac		W, 12-7
Men's Track at UConn Invitational		5th of 5
Women's Track at UConn Invitational		7th of 7
<i>Sunday 4/23</i>		
Tennis vs. Holy Cross		W, 7-0
Softball vs. Seton Hall		W, 5-3
Softball vs. Seton Hall		W, 5-4
Men's Lacrosse vs. North Carolina		L, 11-7
<i>Tuesday 4/25</i>		
Tennis at Hartford		W, 6-1
<i>Wednesday 4/26</i>		
Softball vs. Boston College		W, 5-3
Men's Lacrosse at Marist		W, 9-6

## Schedules

<i>Thursday 4/27</i>		
Men's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
Women's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
<i>Friday 4/28</i>		
Men's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
Women's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
<i>Saturday 4/29</i>		
Softball at Pittsburgh (doubleheader)		11:00 a.m.
Lacrosse vs. Mount St. Mary's		1:00 p.m.
Men's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
Women's Track at Penn Relays		All Day
<i>Sunday 4/30</i>		
Softball at Syracuse (doubleheader)		Noon
<i>Tuesday 5/2</i>		
Softball at Holy Cross		3:00 p.m.

## Standings

### Big East Women's Softball Standings (4/25/06)

Team	Big East			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Notre Dame	13	1	0	31	13	0
USF	11	1	0	41	20	0
Louisville	9	3	0	30	8	0
Syracuse	12	6	0	30	19	0
DePaul	9	5	0	25	15	0
Providence	9	7	0	27	14	1
Pittsburgh	8	10	0	27	24	0
St. John's	6	10	0	23	23	0
Connecticut	5	9	0	18	23	0
Seton Hall	6	12	0	28	24	0
Rutgers	4	14	0	12	34	0
Villanova	2	16	0	13	32	0

### MAAC Men's Lacrosse Standings (4/25/06)

Team	MAAC			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Mt. St. Mary's	6	1	0	6	7	0
Canisius	5	2	0	6	7	0
Providence	5	2	0	7	6	0
Marist	4	2	0	6	7	0
St. Joseph's	5	3	0	6	9	0
Manhattan	3	4	0	5	7	0
Siena	2	5	0	3	10	0
VMI	2	5	0	3	9	0
Wagner	0	7	0	0	14	0



# Friars: 5-2 in MAAC Softball: Great week

continued from back page

Labadini, Farley, and junior Bennett Murphy would each net a goal in the second quarter to close out the half with an 8-3 Friar lead. The halftime intermission brought a revived spirit to the Quinnipiac squad, and they took the field in the second half to make a run at the Friars' lead. The Bobcats would score four goals to the Friars' one in the third quarter, cutting PC's lead down to two. The Friars then mustered a rally of their own in the fourth, officially crushing what little Bobcat spirit was left by netting three more to win the game, 12-7.

Unfortunately, the winning streak for the Friars was cut short when they returned home to host UNC on Sunday, April 23 at the Friar Lacrosse Complex.

Providence jumped out to an early lead courtesy of a Farley goal assisted by Kelly 1:35 into the game. The goal would be the first of five on the day for Farley, but it was also the Friars' only one of the period, while the Tar Heels would net two of their own. Farley netted again at the start of the second quarter to tie the game up at 11:11 before UNC would tally three unanswered goals to close out the half.

Netting three more unanswered goals on the other side of halftime, the Tar Heels posted an 8-2 lead. In the final seconds of the third quarter, Farley would net his third goal, still trying to keep the Friars alive despite the widening gap.

"Sometimes the best adjustments made are none," explained Burdick. "My job as a coach is to keep the guys in it mentally. The only adjustments that were made were by Seyer, who had enough juice left in him to run four faces in a row and start our run. We weren't about to let them take the win without sweating a bit."

The Friars managed to pull within 9-6 at the 6:33 mark, but after two more

goals by UNC, the Friars' hopes of a rally slipped away.

In the closing seconds of the game, Farley would conclude the Providence effort by netting his fifth and final goal of the game. The goal marked Farley's single-game career-high; unfortunately it wasn't enough to overcome UNC.

"It was a team effort with Mike's five goals," said Burdick. "Our game plan is to spread out and get people included in the offense. UNC was playing Seyer and Kelly real tight, so we were forced to give him the ball more often, which ended up helping us. Mike did real well and I feel that he played like a Division I First Team All-American on Sunday."

With those four games completed, the Friars prepared themselves for Marist.

"We have got to make a decision early that we are going to win this game," said Burdick. "We hope to keep them off-balance on [defense] and execute what we are supposed to on [offense]."

The Friars were able to notch a critical win against Marist. After seizing a 3-0 lead in the first quarter, junior Brendan Ryan and Sieniawski would contribute a goal each in the second to give PC a 5-3 lead at the half.

As halftime ended and the third quarter began, Marist would come out and score the opening goal of the third in a man-up situation, narrowing the Providence lead to one. PC then rattled off three straight goals to earn a four-goal advantage—an 8-4 lead as they entered the fourth quarter.

The Red Foxes were able to muster two more goals in the fourth to get within two, 8-6, but the Friars ultimately came away with a 9-6 victory.

The win upped their record to 5-2 in the MAAC and 7-6 overall. They will return to action for their final regular season game Saturday, April 29, at 1:00 p.m. against Mount St. Mary's back here at the Friar Lacrosse Complex.

continued from back page

striking out five while giving up six hits.

Fortunately for the Friars, they were on the winning end of another close game in the nightcap. This time it was the Friars who struck first, scoring two runs on back-to-back homers by Bartholomew and Romero in the bottom of the fourth. PC pushed across an insurance run with freshman Gina Rossi's single in the bottom of the sixth.

Jennifer Maccio pitched a very solid game, allowing just the one run on seven hits along with five strikeouts.

"After the first game we felt like we didn't play up to our potential," said Bowers. "We have to learn to do the little things, to work together and we'll pull through."

On Wednesday, Boston College traveled to PC to face the Friars in a single game. As happened over the weekend, the Friars found themselves down early, as the Eagles raced out to a 3-0 lead.

However, everything changed when Ross smashed a bases loaded double in the fifth. Three Friars crossed the plate to tie the game. Junior Michelle Bowers followed up with a double of her own to put the Friars up 4-3. Bartholomew capped off the scoring with a home run,

bringing her hit streak to 11 games. Pitcher Jennifer Maccio held BC scoreless the rest of the way as Providence went on to a 5-3 win.

"It's a great rivalry," said Coach Jackletts before the game. "The coaches both went to Providence so there's a great match up."

This weekend the Friars will travel to Philadelphia to face Villanova in a doubleheader on Saturday, April 29, and then move on to Syracuse to play two on Sunday, April 30.

"These games are huge," said Bowers. "If we win, it puts us in position to go to the [Big East] tournament. We know the games are very important and we want to win."

Their final home games of the season will take place on Thursday, May 4 against Louisville. Following these games, the team hopes to wrap up their season by qualifying for the Big East tournament in South Bend, Ind., from May 11-14. The top eight teams in the Big East will be invited to the single elimination tournament.

As of right now, Providence sits in sixth place in the conference. If the season ended today, the Friars would qualify, but they certainly aren't taking anything for granted.

## CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent

### Apartments for Rent

Many 3 – 12 bed recently renovated apartments and houses available. Houses on Oakland, Pembroke, Eaton, Pinehurst, and Tyndall. Many have new baths, hardwoods, parking, and laundry. Some available with phone, cable, and high speed internet jacks in every room. Call 952-0966 for details.

### Apartment for Rent!

Pembroke Ave near PC 2nd and 3rd floors: 3 Large Bedrooms, new porch, new kitchen appliances, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, new gas baseboard heat, and gas hot water, new bathrooms. Secure area with lighted parking. \$1,200.00 per month Call 831-3100.

### LOOKING FOR A PLACE OFF-CAMPUS?

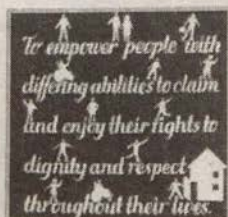
Great house for group of 4-5. Corner of Admiral St. and Huxley Ave. Off-street parking, washer/dryer, DW, alarm, porch, fireplace, and more. Call M. Perry 334-4045.



## Attention



Psychology ~ Education ~ Social Work  
Human Service Majors!



**CranstonArc**, a leader in human services for over 40 years, is seeking dedicated students who want to get a head start on gaining practical experiences that will enhance their marketability upon graduation.

Home Based Treatment Services employs talented individuals who work with a team of licensed professionals participating in the delivery of treatment services to children with a variety of developmental and behavioral needs.

☆ Make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities

☆ Important training opportunities

☆ Excellent hourly rate

☆ Flexible hours

Minimum qualifications include:

- High School Diploma/GED
- Access to an insured vehicle
- Proof of a clean driving record
- Must pass Background Criminal Investigation

For more information contact Maureen Russo, HR Manager,  
CranstonArc, 111 Comstock Pkwy, Cranston, RI 02921,  
Tel: 941-1112, ext 139 or email: mrusso@cranstonarc.org

## summer

## SLEEPOVER SALE

### CHEAP R/T AIRFARE

LONDON from \$261\*

PARIS from \$360\*

PRAGUE from \$392\*

### HOSTEL HOOKUP

**\$19\***

BERLIN, DUBLIN, LONDON, RIO DE JANEIRO, MADRID, SYDNEY, VANCOUVER, MELBOURNE

### GOOD VIBRATIONS HOTELS

**\$29\***

CAIRNS, MUNICH, MELBOURNE, PRAGUE, PARIS, QUEENSTOWN, MADRID, MIAMI, HONG KONG

### BEDS WITH BENEFITS HOTELS

**\$39\***

HONG KONG, PRAGUE, SYDNEY, MADRID, BERLIN, CAPE TOWN, NEW YORK, PARIS, SAN FRANCISCO

\*Hurry! Hotel/hostel sale ends 4/17/06. Prices are per person, per night. Some restrictions apply. Airfare is correct at time of print and out of Boston. Taxes and applicable fees not included. CST #1817690-40

Call or come in to book now:  
220 Thayer St.  
(401) 331.5810

**STA TRAVEL**  
www.statravel.com



# Tennis team finishes season on high note

BY RYAN HOLT '09  
SPORTS STAFF

The Providence College Women's Tennis team concluded its season this week with matches against Holy Cross and Hartford. It was a great ending to a learning season for the young team. The Friars were impressive at home against Holy Cross, wrapping up their home season, 7-0. On Tuesday, the Friars continued their success with a 6-1 rout on the road against Hartford.

The last game of the home season on Sunday marked senior day for Sara Bitetti and Marissa Bigelli. The two were honored by their coach and teammates before the match.

The Friars swept all singles matches,

and won two of three doubles matches. The strong performance included effort from all on the team.

"The team played well," said Head Coach Wayne Turner.

Turner also pointed to the success of some of the non-seniors, who must step up in their teammates' absence in the coming years.

"Kerri Schulz continues to get better with each match," Turner said of the junior. Schulz won her singles match 8-0 and her doubles by default.

"Bitetti and Risollo have been strong at No. 1 doubles," he also added. The two won 8-2 Sunday.

Turner continued his praise for Risollo, a freshman who is already performing at a high level. "Risollo has taken a big step up in singles," he said. "She is adapting to the college game very quickly and continues to improve."

On Tuesday, the Friars won all but one singles match and swept in the doubles competition. In the No. 1 spot, Bitetti concluded her Friar career with an impressive straight set win, 6-2, 6-0. Bitetti and doubles partner Risollo won 8-0.

The Friars did not lose a single game in any match of doubles play Tuesday. All but one of their victories in singles competition came in straight sets.

Turner had strong praise for his two graduating seniors. In particular, he mentioned the accomplishments of Bitetti.

"Sara Bitetti finishes her career here today. She has definitely been one of our best players in the past five plus years both on and off the court," he said. "She has improved so much this year. I wish I could find a way to keep her around one more year."

Bitetti, much like the rest of the young team around her, made great improvements over the course of the year. The team experienced many challenges and obstacles, but according to their coach, the players have grown significantly as a result.

The lessons learned this year will contribute to further results next year. With

many returning, the Friars will continue to improve in the coming season.

"Next year's outlook is very good. Two women are attending via national letter of intent, and we hope to have some additional signings," said Turner.

"(Sara Bitetti) has definitely been one of our best players in the past five-plus years both on and off the court. She has improved so much this year. I wish I could find a way to keep her around one more year.

Head Coach Wayne Turner

"We will be young," he cautioned, "but with the team we have returning I think we will be extremely competitive."

The improvements of this season are visible with these recent results. Next year, the tennis team will return older, wiser, and more experienced. It will certainly be one of many young, up-and-coming teams around campus worthy of attention.



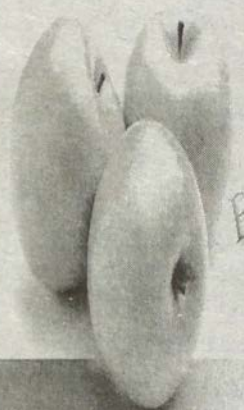
PROVIDENCE  
COLLEGE

## HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

64 HALL



Nutrition

Chair Massage  
EXERCISE  
Wellness

### Basic Screenings

Blood Pressure  
Cholesterol & Glucose  
Body Fat Analysis  
Postural Screening  
DermaScan  
Pulmonary Function Test

Good Health  
Smoking Cessation  
Awareness

Raffle Prizes

Sponsored by Human Resources & Student Health Center

## Men and Women Needed for Alcohol Drinking Research Study

The Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies at Brown University is examining the effects of a medication on responses to drinking and alcohol related cues. Study participation will involve several outpatient visits over approximately a 6-week period.

### Earn up to \$500 for completing the study

You must be 21-65 years old, a regular drinker, and not seeking treatment for alcohol problems.

Call Amy or JP at (401) 444-1807



Better Ingredients - Better Pizza

FASTER DELIVERY

996 Chalkstone Ave  
421-8880

<p><b>Dorm Special</b></p> <p>2 12" cheese Pizzas Breadstix &amp; 2 20 oz sodas</p>	<p><b>Only \$5.99!!!</b></p> <p>12" cheese pizza and a 20 oz</p>	<p><b>2 Pizzas for \$9.99</b></p> <p>2 12" Cheese Pizzas Only</p>	<p><b>Xlg Pizza &amp; Wings</b></p> <p>1 Xlg Cheese Pizza &amp; our Wings or chicken strips for Only</p>
---	--	---	--



7th  
annualState of  
PC Sports

## Ingredients for success

65-week project will begin on June 1, 2006 and plans to open its doors in the fall of 2007.

Not only will the fitness center benefit the entire student body, but it will also provide revamped facilities for the athletic department. Housed in the fitness center will be a new training room, which will take the place of the current lobby to Alumni Gymnasium. In addition, there will be a new equipment room, a larger visitors' locker room, as well as a new ticket office which will be located in the atrium of the fitness center.

Providence will also be making some cosmetic changes to Glay Field, as the Athletic Department has been mandated by the Big East Conference to upgrade its soccer facilities. Flags, wind screens, a new public announcements system, and stands are currently planned. Also, Glay Field will prove to be in much better shape this fall with the men's lacrosse program now having a new complex and the field seeing less action this spring. However, this solution will only last the Athletic Department for so long before the Big East demands more of its members' facilities.

Finally, the Honorable William C. Leary and his wife Emily, have donated \$100,000 specifically for the purpose of renovating the women's ice hockey locker room in Schneider Arena. Renovations are scheduled to take place this summer.

Also undergoing renovations will be the Dunkin' Donuts Center, which was acquired by the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority from the City of Providence. The "Dunk" will close its doors on June 12, 2006, and plans to reopen for the first Providence Bruins hockey game for its 2006-07 season in October.

During the summer, the Convention Center Authority plans to remove the war memorial and store it, relocate the surrounding utilities, replace the ice system inside the Center, repaint the ceiling, and install new video scoreboards.

Other plans for the "Dunk" include new seats, concession stands, bathrooms, and luxury boxes. In addition, the lobby will be expanded and the "Dunk" will be connected to the adjacent Rhode Island Convention Center. Overall, the project will cost the Convention Center Authority approximately \$60 million and will bring new life to the Providence Men's Basketball team's home court.

With new facilities finished and major renovations in store this year, Providence will be able to compete with other state-of-the-art facilities located at larger universities.

But new and improved facilities are not the answer to Providence's prayers. The facilities are just one part of the puzzle which will help PC attract athletes and students alike. Coaching staffs also play a large part in the deciding factor

for student athletes.

Men's ice hockey, women's basketball, women's soccer, and softball all have first season head coaches this season which have proved thus far to be a success for all of the programs.

PC alumnus and All-American Tim Army '85, took over the men's ice hockey program on June 17, 2005 with the full intention of revamping the team's style of play. Striving for a more aggressive and cleaner style of play, Army took the Friars to the Hockey East tournament again this season. Unfortunately though, Providence lost to New Hampshire in the quarterfinals and ended its season with 17-16-3 record overall and went 14-10-3 in Hockey East play.

Army has recruited a strong class for the 2006-07 season, including Rhode Island natives John and David Cavanaugh, cousins from Warwick who led the Salisbury School to New England Prep School Ice Hockey Association Division I State Championships.

Phil Seymore led the women's basketball program to an 8-19 overall record and a 3-13 conference record. The 2005-06 season snapped the Friars 39 game losing streak in the Big East Conference, when the Friars defeated Cincinnati on Jan. 7, 2006. PC's eight wins were also a landmark for the team and with a solid freshman class, things look to be on the rebound.

Women's Soccer Head Coach Jim McGirr came to Providence from Villanova, where he had been an assistant coach for the past two years. The women's soccer program has not had a winning season since 1993, but McGirr is looking to turn the team around after helping Villanova to the NCAA Tournament and a national ranking. The Friars finished their season 5-11-2, improving over last season's 5-13-0 record. The women's soccer program is still in the rebuilding process, but with a Big East mandate providing for men's and women's soccer programs to be fully funded by July 1, 2008, the program will receive additional funding.

Softball also acquired a new head coach, when Kerri Jacklets was appointed as acting head coach after the departure of Dana Fulmer, who served as head coach for eight seasons. Jacklets was an assistant coach prior to her promotion at Providence and has almost doubled the Friars' conference wins, with nine conference wins this season, compared with only five last season. Providence is now ranked sixth in the Big East; the team finished second to last over Rutgers last season. As the team continues with one of its most successful seasons, there is a good chance the Friars will make the Big East Tournament.

Another notable season for the Friars was the men's soccer season, which made a run at the NCAA tournament for the second time in Friar history. Provi-

The State of PC Sports address is an annual feature written by *The Cowl's* sports editor. The piece is a tradition begun by Joe Valenzano '00, seven years ago.

This year, Sports Editor Emeritus Stephanie LaCharite '06 writes her inaugural State of PC Sports address. It focuses on revamping athletic facilities, new coaching staffs, and Providence's ability to compete in the Big East Conference.

dence made it to the second round of the tournament, where the team was defeated on the road against No. 2 North Carolina. In addition, Head Coach Chaka Daley was named NSCAA Division I New England Coach of the Year as he led the Friars to 7-4-9 record in a remarkable turnaround season.

Some of the notable teams of PC Athletics, men's and women's cross country and women's ice hockey, remained stable producing more All-Americans.

Senior Karen Thatcher and junior Kristin Gigliotti were named to the 2005-06 RBK Hockey All-American Second Team this season, as the team made it to the semifinals of the Hockey East Championships.

Led by Head Coach Ray Tracey, serving in his 22nd season at Providence, the men's and women's cross country teams once again claimed the national spotlight.

Senior Martin Fagan led the men's cross country program this year, claiming first at most of Providence's events this season, including the Big East Championships. Fagan also finished second at the NCAA Northeast Regionals and 16th at the NCAA Championships. Sophomore Ahmed Haji and classmate Max Smith also qualified for the NCAA Championships. Overall, the men's cross-country team finished third at the NCAA Northeast Regionals this season, where the Friars went into the event ranked 30th in the nation.

Likewise, the women's cross country program also held its own this season making its 17th annual trip to the NCAA Championships. The women went into the Championships ranked 17th in the nation, where senior Fiona Crombie led Providence finishing 16th. Junior Meghan Owen was PC's second to finish coming in 67th overall. The team finished 16th at the meet and Crombie was named the NCAA Northeast Region Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Despite the men's basketball team not being able to reach the .500 mark after graduating NBA Boston Celtics player Ryan Gomes, the team will continue to rebuild for next season.

Fully staffed with a combination of

young energetic coaches and indispensable coaches, like All-American Ray Tracey, Olympian Diane Madl, and Bob Deraney. The overall coaching talents of Providence College Athletics have reached a peak.

Almost all of PC Athletics are fully funded or very close to being fully funded, with the exception of four teams: men's and women's swimming and diving, men's lacrosse, volleyball, and women's tennis.

As Providence College's Athletic Department continues to come full circle with an array of improvements and new facilities, coupled with new coaches turning teams around, it seems the State of PC Sports has no where to go but up. Pending the already funded Dunkin' Donuts Center renovations and with plans for a new track and soccer complex for the near future, Providence has the tools to attract the country's top athletes.

In addition, with a new President at the helm of the College's administration Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P., president of the College, an avid Boston Red Sox fan, has been more than supportive of the Athletic Department, according to Carl LaBranche, director of facilities and game day management.

Providence has a winning combination, despite a few sports that will continue to rebuild through this season, and the Athletic program as a whole looks as though it will only get stronger in the upcoming years.

While the Athletic Department is putting more effort into student support with initiatives like the one seen at the lacrosse game against North Carolina where the PC Athletics teamed up with BOSSA (Board of Students Supporting Athletes) pizza and T-shirts were given to students at the game.

But with new recruits who look promising to ensure future Friar success, student support will hopefully become more contagious.

However, with plans for facilities already in action, coaches bringing teams to the top, mandated scholarships, and better recruits, the state of PC sports looks bright.

**Chardonnay's**  
CAFE  
PIZZA • PASTA • PANINI • SALAD • ETC.

**LUNCH  
&  
DINNER!**

**WE NOW DELIVER!  
TO THE PC CAMPUS!**

1525 Smith St., North Providence (GOLD'S GYM PLAZA) Open 7 days a week, 11AM to 10PM

**TEL. 353-7722**



# SPORTS

APRIL 27, 2006

## 7th annual State of PC Sports

BY STEPHANIE LACHARITE '06  
SPORTS EDITOR EMERITUS

Being the smallest school in a conference loaded with national powerhouses makes rising to the top in any sport a struggle. But despite Providence's small size (and budget) in comparison to other Big East Conference schools, its athletic department continues to produce nationally-ranked teams.

Although the men's basketball team was not at the top of its game this season, many other teams were, while some programs are still in transition. The word "potential" can carry a negative connotation, meaning something one aspires to be but has not yet achieved, but that word described the Department of Athletics here at PC when I entered the college four years ago. Today, Providence is realizing its potential.

New facilities, transitions in staff, and Big East Conference mandates are making the Friars stronger in every aspect. Competition in the Big East is dependent upon programs' facilities, coaching staff, and scholarships.

Facilities are the most evident change in the athletic department, and upon students' return last September the long-awaited Field Hockey and Lacrosse Complex project was complete. Field hockey was able to play its first game on the turf in August, as the Friars had full use of the facility for its fall season. Likewise, the men's lacrosse team is also spending its first season at the new complex.

With the Friars lacrosse program settling into its new home field, Glay Field has seen less wear and tear, drastically improving field conditions for the men and women's soccer programs.

While rumors have been circulating about the possibility of a soccer and track complex, thought has been given to plan. The plan would be a long-term initiative, which would greatly improve facilities for the soccer programs and provide a home for Providence's All-America and Olympic caliber runners.

A site plan has been developed, but with the extensive resources needed to build such a complex, a piece-meal approach could be used to tackle the overwhelming project. The College may perhaps begin with a track which would encompass Hendricken Field, leaving the field space open for rugby and soccer practices. It is a possibility that the field could be turned into a complex with the actual field and surrounding bleachers, scoreboard, and other infrastructure being tackled further down the road.

The next big project slated for the Providence College campus is the new fitness center. The PC SPORTS/ Page 31

## Softball team enjoys home advantage

BY ERIN REDIHAN '08  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

If you don't believe that there's no place like home, just ask the Providence College Women's Softball team. The team enjoyed a successful weekend homestand, splitting a doubleheader with St. John's on Saturday and sweeping Seton Hall on Sunday. The Friars are now 9-7 in Big East play and 26-14-1 overall.

Down 3-0 early in Sunday's first game with the Pirates, the Friars scored in the bottom of the third to pull within one. Junior Katie Ross singled to start the rally and scored on senior Michelle Bowers' home run.

The rally carried over into the fourth, when PC pulled ahead of Seton Hall for good. Freshman Mary Sheehy and senior Tara Sullivan both scored on senior Michelle Willette's RBI single to put the Friars in the lead 4-3. Willette continued her solid day at the plate when she added a double in the sixth, leaving her a triple shy of a cycle. She went on to score on Bartholomew's single later that inning to increase the lead to 5-3.

Junior Sara Surosky pitched a complete game in the win to improve her record to 16-10. She allowed three runs in the



Junior Rachel Bartholomew garnered Big East Player of the Week honors after smacking six homers and 11 RBIs in PC's last seven games.

first two innings but settled down to hold the Pirates scoreless the rest of the way, striking out seven.

"She's been doing everything we've needed," Head Coach Kerri Jackletts said of

Surosky. "I think she pitched about 15 innings for us this weekend, and she's been great."

As in the first game, the Pirates took an early lead to open the second game. Once again, the PC rally started in the third

when Ross singled. She would come around to score on Willette's double. Willette and Bowers crossed the plate on Sam Pittman's single to give PC a 3-1 lead.

Seton Hall would reclaim the lead with a three-run fifth inning, but it did not last. In the bottom of the inning, Willette led off with a triple and promptly scored on Pittman's sacrifice fly. Later in the frame, senior Elena Romero homered to give the Friars a 5-4 lead. Seton Hall would threaten with two hits off freshman pitcher Jennifer Maccio, who came in to relieve Surosky in the fourth, but the Pirates ultimately failed to score. Maccio earned with win to improve to 8-4 on the year.

"We want to go to the tournament so much that it's given us a tough edge," said Bowers. "We have a tough edge because we want it more."

On Saturday, the Friars got off to a slow start by losing a heartbreaking eight inning contest 2-1 to St. John's. PC failed to score until the sixth inning when Rachel Bartholomew homered in her fifth straight game to tie the game at 1-1. However, the Red Storm drove in the winning run with a sac fly in the eighth. The Friars received two walks in the bottom of the inning but failed to score. Surosky pitched well in the loss,

SOFTBALL/Page 29

## Three steps forward, two steps back

BY GREG HARTWELL '07  
SPORTS STAFF

A lot has occurred since the Providence College Men's Lacrosse team last graced the pages of *The Cowl*. During the

last few weeks, the Friars have been keeping busy, facing off versus both Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference and non-conference foe alike.

The Friars posted a 3-2 mark over the stretch, opening with a loss versus a MAAC opponent, the Virginia Military Institute, by the score 11-7. But Providence would bounce back to record two wins, one against the Manhattan College, 8-4, and the other versus Quinnipiac, 12-7. A loss against the non-conference UNC Tar Heels, 11-7, was followed by a crucial MAAC victory, a 9-6 win over Marist.

Among the games' standouts were graduate student John Hollister, who became the 19th Friar to record 100 or more career points in the Quinnipiac game, and senior Michael Farley, who had a career high five goals against UNC.

The stretch began with a forgettable 11-7 loss at home to VMI before Easter.

"We knew that we needed to make the commitment to win against Manhattan," said Head Coach Chris Burdick. "We have

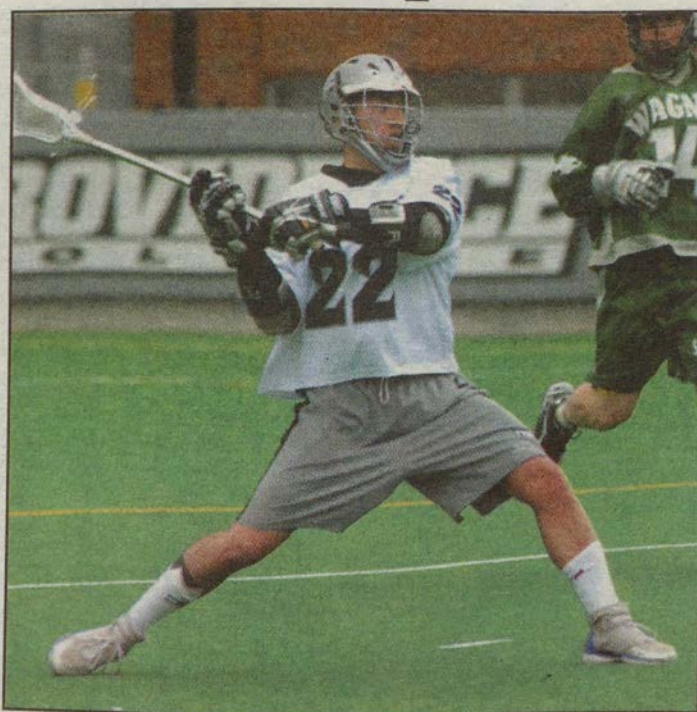
a tendency to fall into the trap of seeing how things shape up later in the game, and you can't win Division I Lacrosse games like that."

With their new mentality, the Friars would host the Manhattan Jaspers on April 19. The Friars would start the game's scoring off in the first quarter, capitalizing on two of their three shots—senior Tom Kelly at 12:32 and Farley at 0:16.

Owning a 4-2 lead to start the third, the Friars saw their advantage slip to one when Manhattan netted with 3:43 remaining in the period. But the Jaspers would run out of gas, as the Friars tallied three goals to record an 8-4 win—a clear morale boost for PC, and a great way to rebound from a tough loss to VMI.

Flying high off of their victory over Manhattan, the Friars faced off against Quinnipiac on April 22. It was there that graduate student Jonathan Hollister netted a season high of five points on two goals and three assists, reaching 100 career points at Providence. At this point in the season, Hollister has tallied 57 goals and 43 assists in his career at PC with three games remaining in the regular season.

"The key to the Quinnipiac game was our game plan was opposite than it was against VMI... opposite in the fact that we were able to execute it perfectly," Burdick said. "We were able to change our [defense] to put the pressure back on their [offense]. We executed a zone [defense], and ended up using the zone until we decided it was time to change as the end of the game approached. This game plan only works if our offense buys into it. The guys did what they had to in order for our [defense] to work, they held the ball, ran the offense, and for a change were very effective in



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Despite the fact the Friars fell 11-7 to UNC, senior Michael Farley notched a single-game career-high of five goals in the losing effort.

transition."

The Friars netted four goals in the first nine minutes of the first quarter via junior Mark Dillon, Hollister, sophomore Bobby Labadini, and freshman Brad Sieniawski. Quinnipiac managed to cut the lead to two after netting two of their own before the end of the first.

Senior Mark Seyer,

FRIARS/Page 29